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2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount, whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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THE CINCINNATI BRIDGE.

Meeting of Pittsburgh and Cincinnati Business Men.

THE LOCATION EXAMINED.

Arguments of the Steamboat Men and Merchants.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

CINCINNATI, August 10, 1874.

The meeting of the Joint Committee of business men from Pittsburgh and Cincinnati, was held here to-day to consider whether the proposed new bridge across the Ohio river at the foot of Horn street was an obstruction to river commerce. The bridge is to be the entry into the city for the Cincinnati Southern Railway, and the site selected is about the middle of a bend in the river, and just above the mouth of Mill Creek. The gentlemen present on the part of Pittsburgh are Captain G. W. Gray, Capt. B. F. Hall, S. S. Brown; coal operators: Addison Lyle, and Captains N. J. Bigley and J. A. Blackmore. On the part of the Cincinnati business interests, Edmund Dexter, Jno. Morrison, J. Kyle, Florence, Marmett and W. H. Harrison. On the part of the Cincinnati boatmen, C. V. Shields and Thomas Sherlock. The Bridge Engineers are Gen. Hickenlooper, T. D. Lovett and S. Brown. The United States engineers in consultation are Col. Merrill, Gen. Simpson and Maj. Suter. Miles Greenwood, President of the Southern Railroad also is in attendance. The meeting this morning was presided over by General Simpson, and was informal, the discussion being general between all present. The prevailing idea of the steamboatmen and most of the business men was that the channel span of the bridge ought to be at least five hundred feet, though Colonel Merrill held that an existing law would not compel them to make it over four hundred feet. Another point of difference is as to the location of the channel span. The railroad authorities and the engineers desire to have it on the Ohio side, while the Pittsburgh men, and most of the river men, in fact, want to have it on the Kentucky side. The location of the bridge on a bend would make it a difficult matter to take a tow of barges through without striking the piers on one side, or the shore on the other. This afternoon Capt. Shinkle hitched up a fleet of empty barges to the towboat Champion and took the committee down to the site of the bridge. Of course there could be no result to the experiment, as the piers of the bridge are not yet commenced, but the aim was to have a conference between all parties. It will be strongly urged on the railroad authorities that they shall bore further up the river at the present Fifth Street ferry. The meeting will be continued to-morrow and perhaps the following day. The Pittsburghers remaining until this closes. The result, however, will not be known until the Committee of Engineers reports to the Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 9, 1874.

Changes in the Treasury Department.

The removal of Henry B. James, clerk of the Customs Division, in the office of the Secretary of the Treasury, is denied in official quarters. Despite this, there seems to be indications that such a step is contemplated, and that Lorin Hollister, General Appraiser of Merchandise at Philadelphia, will be the successor. The duty of the Chief of the Customs Division is to decide upon certain questions of tariff and other relevant subjects. The decision of the Secretary of the Treasury with the special agent branch of the Custom Service led him to issue his order breaking up the old ring, which had consisted of matters. Commissioner Johnson is now at work carrying out the orders of the Secretary, and has pretty generally rooted out the fungi, and what will left will not go long. They will receive such a salutary lesson that they will attend to their legitimate duties hereafter. It was alleged that the Customs Division in the Secretary's office was run in the same interest. This subject is being thoroughly investigated, and there is reason to believe that Secretary Bristow—who is determined to be merciless upon every vestige of the old regime, not compatible with law and responsibility, has not full confidence in the administration of the division named, and it is not at all improbable that it too is marked out for an early reorganization, in connection with the new regime established in the Internal Revenue Bureau. Customs Division will remain in the present relation to the Secretary's office, and will not be consolidated with the Customs Bureau, as in the case with the Supervising Special Agent, for the reason that its duties are of such a nature that it is required to be under the Secretary's immediate supervision.

Information Concerning Cholera.

The Supervising Surgeon of the United States Marine Hospital Service having been designated by joint resolution of the Forty-third Congress, approved March 25, 1874, in connection with a medical officer of the army, "to confer with the health authorities and resident physicians of such towns [as were visited by the cholera epidemic of 1873,] and to collect, so far as possible, all facts of importance with regard to such epidemic,"—for the purpose of making a report of the same to the President of the United States to be submitted to Congress, has prepared a circular in which he solicits a detail of the facts which came under the observation of physicians concerning the propagation and spread of the disease during the year. Contributions to this investigation will be fully acknowledged in the official report, the value of which, it is hardly necessary to say, will largely depend upon the co-operation of the profession thus sought.

Copies of any reports or papers which the persons addressed may have already prepared on the subject, or which those prepared by others and annotated or emended by them, will also be of service, and may be forwarded, to be returned if desired.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 7, 1874.

IMPORTANT LAND GRANT DECISION.

Attorney General Williams decides: First, that the operation, of the conditions subsequent to the Congressional grants of public lands, does not depend upon the rules of common law applicable to such conditions, but about the intention of Congress, as gathered from the language employed in the grant itself. Second, that the grant of land made by Congress, to the State of Wisconsin, by the act of 1856 to aid in the construction of certain railroads, in which it was provided that if the said roads are not completed within ten years, no further sales shall be made, and the lands unsold shall revert to the United States, is determinate as to the lands unsold at the time, by the failure to complete the roads specified in the act, and that no Congressional action or judicial proceedings are necessary, but that such unsold lands will be remitted to the public domain, by the publication of an order by the Secretary of the Interior, restoring them to settlement and market.

WASHINGTON, August 8, 1874.

PRE-PAYMENT OF NEWSPAPER POSTAGE.

The new edition of the Postmasters' Guide gives the following rule relative to the transmission of newspapers under the new law:

After January 1st, 1874, every newspaper received at an office for delivery is held to be prepaid, the fact that it is in the mail being conclusive proof of payment. For all papers published once a week and oftener, the rate of postage, under the new law is 2 cents a pound; papers published less often than once a week, 3 cents a pound. The money for this postage must accompany the bag containing the mail matter, and be paid to the postmaster, who will hand to the messenger a stamp or stamps equal thereto cancelled before delivery, or some special design of stamp that will be provided by the Postoffice Department.

A NEW mystery is exciting the New Yorkers. An old building long used as an armoury, and which was formerly used as a church, was torn down to give place to a new block. While the workmen were engaged in excavating for the foundation, they came upon two headless bodies. How the bodies came there is a matter of some conjecture, and all kinds of wild and improbable stories are told concerning them. The old church itself had quite a history. Many years ago, when the Millerite excitement was at its height, the church was the headquarters for the sect. A number of young men, who opposed the doctrine, let loose a flock of pigeons one night when prayer meeting was going on. Great excitement was caused, and many of the faithful, believing the birds to be heralds of the Advent, made hast to put on their ascension robes. In addition to the headless trunks, sixteen other bodies were found. The old church was built in 1819, on land which was a part of "Delancy's farm." The owner, Delancey, was a rank Tory, and during a part of the Revolutionary war quartered a regiment of Hessians, under the command of Colonel Knyphausen. It is supposed that the remains are those of some of the soldiers.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE

England.

PARLIAMENT PROROGUED.

LONDON, August 7.—Parliament was prorogued to-day by a message from the Queen, which was read by the Royal Commission. Her Majesty thanks both houses for voting an annual grant to Prince Leopold; she states that the relations of the British Government with all foreign powers are friendly; she explains that England is represented in the Brussels Conference but has stipulated that there shall be no change in the recognized rules of international law, and that no restrictions shall be placed upon the conduct of naval operations, and reserves the right to accept or reject the recommendations of the Conference. The message further says: "Negotiations have been undertaken for the renewal of the reciprocity treaty formerly existing between Canada and the United States. The negotiations, commenced by the desire and in the interest of Canada, have been temporarily suspended by adjournment of the American Senate. They will be revived soon, and I hope will lead to the increase of commercial intercourse between the two countries. I deeply lament the condition of Spain, and while earnestly desiring the restoration of peace and order in that country, I consider active interference as the most conducive thereunto. A treaty has been concluded with the Sultan of Zanzibar, providing for the gradual arresting of the slave traffic. I am thankful that the famine in India, has not been attended with much mortality, which is due to the timely precautions and measures taken by my government. The Gold Coast is being gradually pacified and reorganized, and the King of Ashantee is discharging his obligations." The message proceeds to congratulate Parliament upon the work, and expresses pleasure because of the reduction in taxation; at the passage of the factory act, by which the health of the women and children operatives will be promoted; at the enactment of the bill reforming the church patronage in Scotland, which will conduce to the religious welfare of the people, because it removes a cause of controversy, and at the passage of the public worship regulation bill, which will settle the form of worship of the established church. The message also mentions other measures of minor importance, which may be expected to be productive of good, and concludes by invoking the blessing of the Almighty upon the members in the discharge of their duties.

THE SECRET SPANISH-GERMAN CONVENTION.

LONDON, August 7.—The *Daily Telegraph's* Paris correspondent says he has trustworthy authority for stating that the secret convention was concluded for three months between the German Emperor and Marshal Serrano, by which Germany agreed, if necessary, to aid in the suppression of the insurrection, either with money or by means of armed intervention, and undertook the recognition of the Spanish Republic by her allies. Serrano, in return, pledged Spain not to make offensive and defensive, with Germany. In the event of a war with France, Italy was to form a third party to the alliance.

RIOT AT PORTSMOUTH.

LONDON, August 8.—There was a serious riot in Portsmouth to-night in consequence of the pier authorities closing a thoroughfare. A mob of several thousand persons destroyed the obstructions, when police charged upon them repeatedly, and many of the policeman and rioters were severely injured. A renewal of the riot is feared.

THE LONDON PRESS ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS.

LONDON, August 10.—The *Times* reports that Pere Hyacinth has resigned his charge in Geneva on account of a dispute between the moderate and extreme sections of the Old Catholic party. He sides with and takes the leadership of the moderates. The *Daily Telegraph* says it is reported that Russia has essentially recognize the Republic of Spain, and all the other powers will follow. The *Morning Post* is informed that Capt. Werner, of the German navy, who had a conflict with the Spaniards before Carthagena, will be promoted to the rank of Rear-Admiral.

THE GOLD COAST.

There are ugly rumors buzzing about the military service clubs to the effect that official news from the Gold Coast is of such a character that another expedition to Ashantee is more than probable.

Italy.

TROUBLE AT BOLOGNA.

ROME, August 8.—Last night an armed band of forty persons quitted Imola and proceeded to Bologna, destroying the telegraph lines and disarming the railway watchmen as they went. The party was pursued by a military force, which arrested nearly all of them and seized their arms and ammunition. There has been considerable excitement in Bologna, caused by the organization of revolutionary societies, but these have been dissolved, and the town is now tranquil.

India.

FLOODS IN SCINDE.

BOMBAY, August 10.—Disastrous floods have occurred in upper Scinde. Several towns have been washed away.

THE AURORA DISASTER.

More Bodies Recovered---Names of the Dead---Twenty-two Bodies Found Altogether.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, August 7.—The following bodies were recovered from the water at Aurora to-day: Charles Dittman, pilot; Charles Reisnger, stoker; Shirly Snyder, and Miss Kate Rekenworth, of Cincinnati; Miss Gonner, of Madison; W. C. Brown, Cincinnati; one fireman and two unknown ladies and M. C. Browning, of New Albany. Ed. Shurlock, a raftsman from Wyandotte, W. Virginia, is supposed to be among the lost.

MORE BODIES RECOVERED.

The recovery of thirteen bodies lost by the burning of the steamer Pat Rogers has been reported in these dispatches. The *Gazette* and *Enquirer* specials report tonight the following additional nine bodies—making twenty-two in all: W. R. Kiskaddon, Newport; N. N. Hallawell, Cincinnati; John Henderson, colored fireman; W. C. Browning, New Albany; John Archer, Cincinnati; a man sixty years old dressed in a duster coat, weight one hundred and sixty pounds; also an unknown man, thirty, with scar on the left hand, and also a scar on the chin, ring on the middle finger of the right hand, with the initials "B. F.". Some bodies found twelve miles down the river, are now in charge of the coroner of Rising Sun, Indiana.

CINCINNATI, O., August 9.—Conflict and confusion of statements have characterized the reports of the number of persons lost by the steamer Pat Rogers calamity, at Aurora, up to the present time. To-day Captain Daniel Morton, who is at the scene of the wreck, superintending the recovery of the bodies, says that forty-five have been recovered, of whom fifteen have not been clearly identified. Such as have been accurately described, have been buried and their graves marked for the benefit of friends seeking them. Two others, Jake Light, the stewart, and Zimmerman, the pantryman of the boat, have not yet been recovered. This makes forty-seven known to be lost. It is barely possible that the list may run up three or four, but it is not probable. The work of wreck continues, the safe of the steamer has been found, but the passenger list has evidently been burned. The difficulty therefore in making an exact list of the lost has been owing to the fact that bodies have been picked up on both the Kentucky and Indiana shores, for fifteen miles along the river. Many of these are identified and many therefore have been counted twice, causing the loss to be reported as high as sixty persons.

ONE peculiarity of the Brooklyn sorrow is the curious parallels in fiction suggested by the actors themselves and those who have sought to analyze their conduct. First came Mrs. Tilton with Catherine Gaunt, and then Tilton said his novel, "Tempest Tossed," represented his own troubles. Others have found analogies between the actors in this drama and characters in Hawthorne's romance, "The Scarlet Letter," Scott's "Rob Roy," and Mary Clemmer Ames' novel, "His Two Wives." A Philadelphian suggests another analogy, which coincides with the theories held by many persons—it is in Moore's "Lalla Rookh," in one of the minor poems thereof, entitled "The Veiled Prophet of Khorassan." Those who believe Mr. Beecher guilty will have no difficulty in satisfying themselves of his resemblance to the great Mokanna. Young Edmund Zelica, his beloved, and the story of the part they played, may also be considered to have a parallel in the story which is now engrossing public attention. It is now in order to read "Lalla Rookh."

It is said that additional charges have been presented to Governor Dix against Mayor Havemeyer, of New York city, alleging the corrupt use of the appointing power, and still other charges are threatened. It is also stated, on what is accepted as good authority, that Governor Dix has ordered an investigation of the charges of official misconduct against Mayor Havemeyer, to be conducted by the State Attorney General.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

Burglary at Washington, Pa.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, PA., August 10.—The book and news depot of W. H. Underwood was broken into by burglars last night. A considerable amount of small currency was taken.

A Father Kills His Son.

TERRE HAUTE, IND., August 7—James E. Strader, living near St. Mary's, shot his son fatally this afternoon. The cause was trouble about a woman.

Lynching in Arkansas.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., August 7.—Three horse thieves were taken out of the jail at Ozark, in Franklin county, last week by about a hundred masked men, and hung. On Monday night the prisoners confined in the Sebastian county jail escaped. A posse went in pursuit, and were fired on by one of the prisoners, killing one of the posse. The peisoner was captured, however, and returned to jail. That night he was taken out by two hundred persons and hung. He was confined for murder.

A Young Man Shoots His Mother.

ST. LOUIS, August 7.—A young man named George Stanley, living in Carrollton, Missouri, went home late last night, and observing some one in the hen house, took a shot gun, fired at the object, and killed his mother, who had gone there to catch some chickens. Young Stanley is almost crazed by the sad event.

The Kate Hartnell Murder.

ST. LOUIS, August 8.—The only new developements in the Kate Hartnell murder, is the arrest of Jno. McNairy, a cousin of the murdered woman, who invited her to take ice cream the night of the murder, and who got into the wagon with her. The other two men in the wagon are not yet known. Timothy Hartnell, the husband, is still in custody, but the theory of the police is that he had nothing to do with the murder. The murdered woman was the daughter of Timothy Buckley of New York, an employee in the Twenty-third street gas-house. She was married to Hartnell, when fourteen yearsold, but had not lived happily with him for a number of years, and finally drifted into a life of prostitution. She had two aunts here named McNairy and Conners, respectably connected, by whom she had been taken out of the brothels three times, and sent to New York; but after staying there a short time, returned here and relapsed into her old way. The police authorities think she was murdered by some of her relatives, to end a career which they regarded as a disgrace to them.

Professional Murderess.

ST. LOUIS, August 10.—Another horror has come to light here, involving perhaps the murder of several persons and a number of infants. Madame Fortmeyer, a midwife, residing at No. 1,817 Morgan street, was arrested yesterday on a charge of committing abortion. The dead body of a young mulatto girl, named Lena Miller, was found in the house, and another young woman, name unknown, was lying very sick and in great pain. She was removed to the hospital. The skeleton of an infant was discovered, and subsequently a horrifically burned bones of a *fotus* were discovered in the stove. It is stated that Madame Fortmeyer has practiced abortion for several years, and that hundreds of infants, or *fotuses*, have been burned by her, and that several highly respectable persons in the city are involved in the matter. The Coroner will hold an inquest on the body of Lena Miller and if the remains of the infant to-day, when it is expected some startling facts will be developed.

The police have considerable additional information in the Fortmeyer abortion case, but refuse to make it public at present. It can be said, however, that she has made no confession to the general effect that she has been in business seven years, and has produced several hundred abortions. She implicates quite a number of highly respectable persons, but says that it was her custom to burn all the *fotuses*, on the ground, as she expresses it, that "ashes tell no tales." Several instruments and medicines used in her business were found in the house and taken possession of by the police. She says that Lena Miller, the mulatto girl who died here, was treated by a doctor operated upon before she came to her. The German girl who was sent to the hospital, and from whom she says that she took a living child, will die. This girl, it is said, recently came from Geneva, Illinois, and claims to be respectably connected. Her name is withheld by the police. An inquest on the dead will be held to-morrow, when startling facts are expected to be brought out.

The Killduff Murder.

NEW YORK, August 10.—The excitement over the Killduff murder is intense in the eastern district of Brooklyn, where the excitement was looked upon as one of the leaders of the Plasterer's Union. The ill feeling between the members of the union and non-society men is very high, and great anger is manifested toward the tailors, as they are designated by union men. All Saturday a large number of masons congregated in the neighborhood where the deed was committed, and around the station house, talking excitedly of the murder, and the subject of working eight or ten hours a day. Killduff's special animosity seems to have been directed against James Burke, who was the first attacked when he entered the building, and he had been heard several days previous to make threats against him specially. At a meeting of the members of the Union, the non-society men were severely condemned for their action, and resolutions were passed expressing profound sorrow at Killduff's death. The funeral took place yesterday from Killduff's late residence, and was attended by a large number of society men.

The "War of Races."

MEMPHIS, TENN., August 10.—Parties who arrived from Somersville this morning state that Albert Reeves, the Republican candidate for Sheriff, who was shot by Burton on Friday, died last night. His brother Paul was dying this morning. Judge J. G. Reeves, another brother who was shot at the same time, and Oscar Burton, will both recover.

Reports are in circulation on the streets that the negroes threaten to burn Austin, Mississippi, some sixty miles below here, because Dr. Smith, who killed a negro there some weeks since, was released on bond, but it is not believed that any serious disturbance will result, though some timid persons have left there, fearing trouble.

Austin seems to be in the possession of the whites, but no particulars can be learned, from which it is inferred that trouble may yet occur there.

A special to-night from Helena, Arkansas, to the *Appeal* says that the steamer Trader was met to-day at O. K. Landing by a party of negroes, who informed Capt. Smith that he could take his boat to Austin, but that he could not return. Capt. Smith deemed it most prudent to turn back at once. It is reported from over the river that a fight occurred at Austin this morning and that 3 negroes were killed. They have sent messengers to Coohoma county, Mississippi, and this place, to get all the recruits possible. It is also stated that the negroes will attack Austin to-night.

Disappearance and Probable Murder.

LOUISVILLE, KY., August 10.—A special to the *Courier-Journal* says that D. P. Nain, a jeweller, in Midway, Woodford county, Kentucky, while on his way home last evening, was siezed by four masked men, and not a trace of him has since been found. Evidences of a struggle were found in the neighborhood where he was seized, and it is probable he was murdered and the body hid. A man who hearing Nain's cries came to his rescue and was driven back with threats of death. Several negroes a little later, saw the men carrying Nain away. He was struggling and groaning. It is known that the object of the murder was robbery or revenge.

CONGRESSMAN William Lawrence, of Ohio, Chairman of the Committee on War Claims, has written a long letter to the Cincinnati *Commercial*, in which he gives some interesting facts. He says the claims now pending before Congress reach about $20,000,000, many of which are test claims, which, if successful, will be followed by very many millions more. The judgments of the Court of Claims for the year 1873 amounted to $489,034. The claims paid under relief acts by Congress for the same year were $797,748. He could not state the amount paid on allowance of the departments, but it was immense, and included $1,960,679 for claims for captured and abandoned property. In concluding his letter Mr. Lawrence says: "On political grounds the people and the press are vigilant. But they should be more vigilant in watching the non-political votes of members of Congress, or their failure to vote, than they are. If they were so the 'lobby' would be deprived of much of its power. I venture to say that the House Committee on War Claims at the last session of Congress did more work than the whole Supreme Court of some of our States in a whole year, and yet, as their work was not necessarily political, the people know but little of it. One of the first claims reported against was asked for nearly a million. Others but little less met the same fate. Not one man in a thousand is aware of the fact that claims most fraudulent in character and amount have been urged with immense power and influence. One member of the lobby declared his purpose to expend $3,000 to defeat the nomination of a certain member of Congress who was regarded as an obstacle in the way of some large claims."

AMONG THE WINNEBAGOES.

A Ride Through Nebraska to The Agency of the Winnebago Indians—Scenery Along the Route—"Big Muddy"—The Harvest—The Dreaded Grasshoppers—The Village of Homer—Miniature Mountains—The Agency and Its Surroundings—The Reservation—The Quaker Agent—How Agents Used to Get Rich on Small Salaries—The Noble Red Men, Their Habits and Peculiarities—Hard to Wean Them from Old Customs and Superstitions—Dress and Undress—The Tribe Self-Supporting—Schools—An Industrial Institute —Progress Toward Civilization Encouraging—Sights on "Ration Day"—Indian Amusements, &c., &c.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

WINNEBAGO AGENCY, NEBRASKA, August 1 1874.

The ride from Dakota City, to the Agency proved to be a delightful one. Although sight seeing is somewhat tedious by private conveyance, in this vast country, where the world seems so much larger, and the distances measured by the eye are so much greater and more deceiving than in the cozy, hilly country of Western Pennsylvania, it is really the best way. There are so many beautiful and ever-changing pictures of the lovely scenery of Nebraska, especially after leaving the monotonous but grand and wide-spread Missouri Valley for a ride over the bluffs, extending for thousands of miles towards the broad plains and wonderful picturesque mountainous regions of far-famed Colorado, with velvety lawns, smooth and soft, spread out before us in every direction, until they appear to merge in the bright, clear, blue sky, or lodge among the clouds of the horizon in the dim distance, like the gentle rolling billows of an ocean, that ever and anon we are prone to linger awhile in this or that charming spot to drink unquenching draughts from the full fountain of the beauty and grandeur of nature, and meditate with thankful hearts upon the glorious works and beautiful dispensations of Nature's God.

A ride of about six miles in a southerly direction, across a wild and unbroken prairie, covered with buffalo grass is some places over our horses' backs, and through an occasional clump of grand old cottonwood trees towering towards the sky, sending forth their dowery crops in the air like rifting snow, brought us to the banks of the Missouri river. It has nothing inspiring for art or poetry. The natives here call it the "Big Muddy." "It is a terrible ugly and treacherous looking stream," are the remarks usually made by the traveler. The turbulent channel is daily changing, and large and heavy timber, and numerous snags, covered with mud, absorb a sufficient amount of water to sink them just beneath the surface, where they continue to float, thus rendering navigation very dangerous.

A ride of two or three miles along the banks of the river brought us into a rich farming district, where immense fields of wheat and corn, such as described in our last. The wheat is now nearly all harvested, and will yield from twenty to thirty bushels to the acre. It is said to be very fine in quality only to that of California. The dreaded grasshoppers have at last returned to Nebraska, and in some places are making sad havoc among the cornfields. Dixon county appears to be the worst stricken district. It is very discouraging to the farmers to see luxuriant cornfields, ready to tassle, ruined in a night by seventy-five to one hundred bushels to the acre, stripped completely of every blade and silk in two or three hours, after all the labor necessary to secure a harvest has been bestowed upon them. We stopped along side of one of the fields to watch their operations. It was literally covered with these pests; the stalks bending almost under their weight, while myriads of them swarmed like bees, constantly hovering over and among the tassels, each ready to light upon the first vacant spot. When we returned the next day, they had finished their work of destruction, and left for other fields. There are many fields, however, that escape with little damage, and there will still be an average of half a crop. The wheat and oats were in the shock before they commenced their depredations, but the corn, and there is an excellent crop, which is the only source of consolation for the stricken and disheartened farmers.

Leaving the valley of the Missouri river, a ride of six miles, over a clean prairie as level as a floor, through excellent and well-cultivated farms, with many substantial and even elegant farm houses, and some new homes, brings us to Homer, a settlement consisting of a postoffice, store and two dwelling houses, located at the foot of the bluffs, in the Omaha creek valley. These bluffs, which form the western border of the Missouri Valley, at a distance ranging from two to twenty miles from the river, in this locality are called a range of mountains *en miniature*. They are mostly covered with a forest of scrub oak, walnut, box-elder, maple and other kinds of timber, and have all a smooth carpet of nature's velvety green, with springs of sparkling cold water, as clear as crystal, occasionally gushing forth from their sides and bases.

This part of Nebraska is pretty well wooded, and has a plentiful supply of good water. The shady groves of timber, with which the valleys surrounded by bluffs, afford a natural protection for stock, and with other natural advantages render it as good a grazing country as can be found anywhere.

Omaha creek is a beautiful little stream of spring water, running over a pebbly bottom, and fed by occasional streamlets from the bluffs on either side of the valley. It is the only stream we have seen in this part of the West with a gravel bottom. Indeed, it is a rare thing to find a stone or rock in any part of the fertile prairie country of the West constantly reminds one of the probability that this deep alluvial soil is the deposit of a great ocean that once covered it. In this stream through the Winnebago reservation, the line of which we cross about three miles up the valley from Homer. Here the first Indian cottages and farms are to be seen, and their well tilled fields of waving grain are equally as good as those of their pale-faced neighbors. This is a charming little valley, just wide enough on either side for large, well proportioned bottom farms, with gently sloping lawns extending, basin-like, to the foot of the bluffs, where the delightful rolling land commences.

The Agency is located seven miles from the line of the reservation. It consists of the Agent's dwelling, Council rooms, a good saw mill and flour mill, store, school-house, industrial school building, and several dwellings for the use of the employees. It is a pretty location of the Agent's dwelling, which is a very neat and comfortable building, is situated in the midst of a fine young grove of timber, upon a high point commanding an extended view of the reservation in every direction.

The reservation embraces one hundred and ten thousand acres of the best land in the State, located in Blackbird county. Taylor Bradley, Esq., is now the agent. He is very agreeable Quaker gentleman, and appears to be very well suited for this rather undesirable position. One of the old-time agents is said to have become wealthy on a salary of fifteen hundred dollars per year; how he did it is one of the unsolved mysteries of financiering. Under the present administration, the affairs of the agency appear to be in good condition. There are now about twenty-four hundred Indians on the reservation, eight hundred of whom were recently removed from Wisconsin. This includes men, women and children; the large number of the latter is abundant evidence that the red man will not become extinct through the natural course of human events. There are one hundred and twenty-four births and four deaths in the rooms each, and proposals are now being received to build fifty more this fall. The Indians, however, do not readily adapt themselves to the luxuries and comforts of civilized life, and almost every house has its wigwam in front, in which they live in summer. They cook, eat, sleep, and in fact many of them retain their old-time customs of dress, painting, &c., with a superstitious pertinacity. The men, some of them, are fine-looking fellows, straight as an arrow, with from one to four small plaits hanging from the crown behind; clad in moccasins, buckskin breeches, and red blankets; armed with bows and arrows much the same as they were in their primitive state in the forests. The squaws have their gaily trimmed dresses, and medicine bag for state occasions; but most of them have taken to calico for every day wear. They are proud of their long, black tresses of hair, which they do up in a queue wrapped closely in red flannel, which hangs down their backs. They wear no bonnets. Many of the smaller children may be seen dodging around with no other dress than that which nature gave them, while the papooses content themselves lying upon their backs strapped to a hard board, with nothing but a thin cloth around their loins. They have laws and rules prescribed by the government; still, the tribe has permission to elect twelve chiefs annually, and choose the chief in whose district they will be enrolled. The first chief receives a salary of one hundred and fifty dollars per annum, and the others one hundred. Each chief selects a policeman from his band, who receives the same amount of salary as the chief. The beef rations, which cost the tribe from ten to twenty thousand dollars per year, were abandoned on the first of November, 1873. The only rations now issued are a small amount of flour, and in another year they will be individually self-supporting. They are now no expense to the government except the salaries of the Agent and Interpreter. Their rations, schools, &c., are maintained upon the interest of their trust funds, consisting of eight hundred thousand dollars in the hands of the government, which now amounts to forty thousand dollars annually. There were three schools in operation last year, with an enrollment of two hundred and seventy scholars, and an average attendance of seventy. Those who attend regularly are said to learn very rapidly; but there is great difficulty in securing attendance. The Industrial School building, just finishing here at a cost of sixteen thousand dollars, is a fine brick, consisting of a main building and two wings, conveniently arranged to accommodate eighty boarding pupils. It is intended for a regular Industrial School for both sexes. A small portion of the day will be devoted to the instruction of the more advanced pupils in the common branches, and the balance of the time, the girls will be taught sewing, cooking and general household duties, while the boys will be detailed to the fields to learn the practical mysteries of agriculture, &c. It will be occupied the first of October next.

The dwelling houses and families are scattered throughout the reservation in the best locations for agricultural purposes, usually in communities, near enough together to secure social comforts and their labor, especially in the use of machinery, of which they have an ample supply. Their personal property is valued at about one hundred thousand dollars. These Indians are making rapid progress towards civilization, as is shown by their excellent crops and well cultivated farms. Last year they raised nine thousand bushels of wheat, eight hundred bushels of oats, and a large amount of corn, potatoes, &c. The acreage this year under cultivation is much larger than last, but owing to the drouth, the number of bushels will not exceed that of last year. They have some fine cattle, good work horses, and apparently an Indian pony for every man, besides good wagons and farming implements. The Indian is learning to take the burden of labor from the squaw upon his own shoulders, leaving her to attend to household affairs. This is one of the most radical changes of Indian customs.

A visit to this reservation cannot fail to convince the most radical fault-finder that the United States Government has dealt nobly with the red man. If they have been wronged or unjustly dealt with, it has been made to appear by their friends, it was not the fault of the government. Our experience and observations convince us that the Indian code of honor is equal, if not superior to that of the white traders and speculators of the frontier.

The next morning after our arrival, was ration day, and as we were anxious to see the Indians coming into the agency, we arose at five o'clock, and repaired to one of the highest bluffs, from which we could see in every direction, wigwams, log cabins, and well tilled fields of grain. North, south, east and west, over bluff, and through coves and valley, they were coming for their rations; in wagons, on ponies, on foot, wrapped in gay blankets of every hue—red, white and blue being the most favored colors. There appear to be but few old Indians; most of them are young and middle aged men. They are, indeed, they maintain a stolid silence, and even those who can speak good English become suddenly dumb, when you show a disposition to talk with them. The resolvable *Haw* is the extent of their conversation, unless they wish to beg, when they become very sociable and communicative. They have a strong sense of the ludicrous, and will titled fields of waving grain are equally as good as those of their pale-faced neighbors. This is a charming little valley, just wide enough on either side for large, well proportioned bottom farms, with gently sloping lawns extending, basin-like, to the foot of the bluffs, where the delightful rolling land commences.

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Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 1874.

Hushing Up the Scandal

Moulton's Statement Suppressed.

The Whole Thing to be Kept Quiet.

Reported Compromise Effected.

MRS. TILTON'S HALLUCINATION.

More from Shearman.

He Declares Beecher Blameless.

Reported Confession from Beecher.

Entire Change of Front on the Part of the Committee.

HOW MOULTON WAS QUIETED.

SUMMARY OF HIS EMASCULATED STATEMENT.

SUPPRESSING THE STATEMENT.

NEW YORK, August 11.—Thomas G. Shearman, Clerk of Plymouth Church, and Benjamin F. Tracy, counsel for the Investigating Committee, think that the statement made yesterday afternoon by Mr. Moulton before the Investigating Committee, will not be given to the newspapers to-day, but say that all rests with Mr. Winslow, a member of the Committee, who may arrive in Brooklyn from his country residence this afternoon.

HUSHING UP THE SCANDAL.

A feeling of disappointment prevails in the community, growing out of the unsatisfactory end towards which the Beecher-Tilton scandal is drifting. The withholding from the public of Mr. Moulton's statement is the subject of much unfavorable comment. There is a general belief that a compromise of the whole affair is on foot. The *Argus* says: "It is even stated, that Mrs. Tilton is prepared to state that she has been laboring under an hallucination; that Beecher is not to resign his pastorate; that the society will refuse to accept his resignation; and that Mr. Tilton will upon these conditions again open the door of his house to Beecher. General Tracy said to-day that the Committee had not decided whether it will keep Mr. Moulton's statement back until all the proceedings are printed or keep it back altogether."

BUTLER AND TRACY TOGETHER.

General Butler had a long interview with Mr. Moulton this morning, at the conclusion of which, he was driven to the house of General Tracy. The latter had just returned from Mr. Beecher's residence and both gentlemen went into the house, where they remained in consultation several hours.

SHEARMAN INTERVIEWED.

Mr. Shearman, in an interview to-day, said in relation to the publication of Mr. Moulton's statement that Mr. Moulton insisted upon a pledge of secresy from the Committee. "The arrangements came about in this way. Mr. Moulton insisted that a pledge should be given by the Committee that none of his testimony should be made public, until a member of the Committee to whom we named, and he, should meet together and agree upon its publication in whole or in part, or upon its suppression, until the Investigating Committee had taken all the testimony it was required to report its verdict, accompanied by the evidence taken in full, upon which that verdict was grounded."

Reporter—"Who was the member of the Committee who was to make this arrangement with Mr. Moulton?"

Mr. Shearman—"District Attorney Winslow."

Reporter—"It seems strange, don't it, that Mr. Moulton should press for secresy now, when the crisis has come?"

Mrs. Shearman—"It does seem strange. The Committee wished to publish his testimony, as they had published other statements, but Mr. Moulton absolutely refused to consent to this." Mr. Shearman after further questioning said, "I know all that Frank Moulton can say or has to say, and I know that there is nothing in it. I know that there is nothing, that he has in his possession that can implicate Mr. Beecher one iota; nothing, because there is

NOTHING IN EXISTENCE TO IMPLICATE HIM.

"Why, if I could tell you all I know about this case, it would show you Mr. Beecher's motives in keeping silent, and would show him blameless, as clearly as if a calcium light were turned on the whole story. If Mr. Baecher had spoken long ago, these clouds would have disappeared like mist before a summer wind, and you would even now if I would not advise Mr. Beecher to speak out. Knowing as I do the circumstances of the case, though his own character would seem to demand that he should tell the public what they have absolutely no right to know. There is a prurient curiosity abroad, to know every detail of this disgusting business, which is absolutely shocking. Mr. Beecher has held his tongue out of respect for the feelings of others. Why, look at this Hooker exhibition. Mr. Beecher tried to keep that quiet to spare the feelings of his family and friends; and look you there are others, but their case is different from hers. She it was who first published it to the world, and the Woodhull people got hold of her and preyed upon her weak intellect, but if Mr. Beecher opened his mouth and told his story, there are distinguished citizens who have been mixed up in this matter, who would suffer; and in his silence he has spared their feelings."

Rep.—"What do you mean by that Mr. Shearman?"

Mr. S.—"I mean that this Woodhull etcerie is a nest of blackmailers; that is the sole object of their lives. They have investigled into their toils, distinguished men and women, and they have sought out Mr. Beecher as a target for their operations, because he is a shining light. I tell you that he can make this thing as clear as the noonday sun, and if he should, there will some people suffer whom he has spared for a long, long time, at the cost of his own ease of mind, and a dastardly persecution. When I reflect on what would be the consequence of his telling out what he knows about the whole matter, I would advise him even now to keep silent and explain away only what is necessary to the Committee."

REPORTED CONFESSION ON BEECHER'S PART.

The *Graphic* publishes a story to the effect that Mr. Beecher, when it was ascertained that Mr. Moulton would make a full statement to the Committe, summoned to his house General Tracy, Mr. Shearman and some of the member of the Committee, and made a confession very disheartening to them; but when the disclosures were repeated in the Committee room, it was resolved that inasmuch as they were committed to carry on the investigation, and had been appointed by Mr. Beecher, they could not withdraw until they had concluded their work. Then came the need of the greatest care and sagacity in the continuance of Mr. Beecher's defense. Before, this Committee had frequently expressed their desire to have Mr. Moulton's full statement. Now a

CHANGE OF TACTICS

was called for. Communication was had with Mr. Moulton, and he was urged by all the arguments at their command, to withhold all of his statement, except so much as would barely meet the demands implied in Mr. Tilton's published testimony. They urged that only those points should be covered which had already been made public. This, as it is reported, it was urged, was all Mr. Moulton as a gentleman having the welfare of society at heart, could do.

MOULTON IN DOUBT.

The course so strongly urged upon him by the Committee coincided, it is understood, with the tenor of the advice which he had previously received from his counsellor and friend, General B. F. Builer, and Mr. Moulton was for some time doubtful what course to pursue. He had prepared a full statement, comprising nearly three hundred pages of manuscript matter. On Saturday afternoon last, he was still in doubt. That night, however, he consented to revise his statement, although at the risk of putting himself at a disadvantage before the public. This revised statement was the one read last evening.

THE ABRIDGED STATEMENT.

The Brooklyn *Eagle* says that the following is the substance of Mr. Moulton's statement. It may be relied on as correct, so far as a man with a tolerably good memory can reproduce it. It is reliable, because it came from a member of the Committee.

Mr. Moulton's statement is unexpectedly brief, making not more than five or six foolscap pages, not closely written. Mr. Moulton says in substance that all he knows about the difficulty between Mr. Beecher and Mr. Tilton was intrusted to him in confidence, with all the documents he has been furnished, relating directly or indirectly to the case, and that these documents were intrusted to him in confidence. He says that he has known Mr. Tilton since 1857, and that he became personally acquainted with Mr. Beecher in 1869, and mainly through this case. Notwithstanding the fact that he has the consent of both Mr. Beecher and Mr. Tilton to tell all he knows about the case, and to furnish all the documents he has in relation to it, and the additional fact that he has been twice summoned before the Committee, he says that he cannot in conscience and as a man of honor disclose any confidences which have been placed in him. He came into the case as a peacemaker, to settle it, and all that he has done has been done in that direction. Without his knowledge and against his wishes, certain documents connected with the case have been published, mainly through Mr. Tilton, and in the statement made before the Committee. So many of the original documents as he has copies of, and which have been made public, he feels under obligations, to place in the hands of the Committee. Mr. Moulton had copies of all these documents made, and he handed these copies to the Committee, holding himself ready to produce the originals when the Committee desired to verify them. Beyond this Mr. Moulton was not willing to make any statement, nor did he feel himself justified in honor or in conscience in producing any documents save those quoted by Mr. Tilton in his statement. Mr. Moulton handed the Committee his statement and the copies of the documents quoted in Mr. Tilton's communication. Mr. Moulton was briefly cross-examined and he maintained the same position. He reiterated what appeared in his statement, that if any attempt was made to assail his position as a friend of both parties, or to question his honor, he might be under the necessity of making a further statement; but for the present, he contented himself with furnishing the Committee exact copies of the documents quoted by Mr. Tilton.

SESSION OF THE SMOTHERING COMMITTEE.

The Beecher Investigating Committee resumed its session this evening. Two witnesses were examined, a lady and gentleman, whose names could not be ascertained. About half an hour after these witnesses came out, the Committee adjourned. They were as reticent as ever, and would give no idea as to how much longer the investigation would last, nor the number of witnesses that were yet to be examined. Several members of the Committee hazarded the opinion that Mr. Moulton's statement would not be made public until printed with the full report of the Committee.

REFUSE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

Mr. Moulton was at his home all the evening, but refused an audience with every visitor, and answered all questions sent to him by note with simply the reply "I cannot say." It is not known whether Mr. Beecher will be before the Committee to-morrow evening or not.

NEW YORK, August 12.—Theodore Tilton gave an emphatic contradiction to-day to the story kept afloat since the suppression of the statement made by Mr. Moulton, that a compromise would be made which would be satisfactory to all concerned in the scandal. Tilton says, for his part, he will not compromise with "when pavements stones blossom into roses." The presentation to the Committee by Moulton of a short statement instead of a long one, which he had first prepared, issaid to have been the result of another tripartite agreement, the parties thereto being General Butler, General Tracy, of the counsel for Beecher and the Investigating Committee, Moulton, Butler and Tracy are represented to have agreed that Moulton should confine himself in his statement to the documents alluded to by Tilton in his statement, and Moulton has consented in the hope that some way might be found to bring about a better condition of affairs.

NEW YORK, August 12.—Mr. Winslow of the Plymouth Church Investigating Committee, said to-day that it had been arranged that Moulton's statement should not be made public until Beecher's statement had been heard by the Investigating Committee. Both statements will be published simultaneously. It is stated that Moulton, Tilton and the latter's lawyer (Morris) have all left town.

TILTON'S MARITAL CORRESPONDENCE PUBLISHED.

CHICAGO, August 12.—The *Tribune* to-morrow prints the marital correspondence between Mr. and Mrs. Tilton, extending over a term of four years and up to within three months of Mrs. Tilton's alleged confession. These letters make over four pages of the *Tribune*. They are extraordinary samples of passionate affection on both sides, and contain frequent allusions to Mr. Beecher's visits to Mrs. Tilton. They were given to the *Tribune* correspondent by Judge Morris, Mr. Tilton's counsel, and are undoubtedly genuine.

NEW YORK, August 12.—The movements of the Beecher Investigating Committee are daily being more completely wrapped up in the veiled language of mystery. This evening, for more than an hour, no trace could be found of them. Visits were paid by members of the press to Mr. Shearman's and Dr. Storrs' residences, but no clue to their whereabouts could be obtained. Mr. Beecher's house, on Columbia Heights, was fixed upon as the only place where the Committee would likely to be, and the sidewalks, in consequence, were thronged with newspaper reporters. About half-past nine o'clock Mr. Hill drove up in a carriage, accompanied by a strange gentleman, and entered the house. Mr. Willard O. Bartlett, Mr. Shearman and Mr. Hill entered a short time before. None of the members of the Committee were observed to enter, and it is supposed they had gone there at an early hour. The Committee adjourned about half-past eleven, but would give no information as to their movements. Mr. Moulton's statement, however, they said would not be made public until thoroughly sifted and they say when it would be ready. It is not known whether Mr. Beecher was before the Committee, its members being reticent, and every other question of like import.

DR. STORES' CARD.

The Rev. Dr. Richard Storrs publishes a short letter this morning. He says: "In the report of Mrs. Elizabeth Tilton's testimony before the Brooklyn Committee, she is represented as making the following statement concerning the conversation which she had solicited with me at my house, in March last, in which conversation she ascribed to her husband the real authorship of a letter written by her own hand which had been shown to me fifteen months before, and which was looked up at me and said, I wish I had known that a week ago, because on that letter alone I believed Mr. Beecher to be a guilty man. He wrote that letter, and that if I wanted to talk further he would like me to see his wife.'" Of this statement Dr. Storrs writes: "I made no such remark to Mrs. Tilton concerning Mr. Beecher. She must have attributed to me an impression which was resting heavily on her own mind. Though I excused myself from the general and painful conversation on matters with which her present testimony is largely occupied, but not until she in a half hour's talk, said all that she wished to say in regard to the origin of the letter referred to, and certainly nothing could have been further from my mind than the thought of referring her to my wife for further conversation on a matter so entangled and every way so painful."

CONJUGAL INFELICITIES.

Ex-Judge Morris says that the evidence of which he was in possession and which he was engaged in collecting preparatory to the trial, was the most convincing and conclusive which he had ever known in any case of law, and in particular that of Mrs. Tilton's statement concerning her husband's cruelty and his locking her in her room like a prisoner, and his freezing and starving her, will be shown to be such fictions that if there is any insanity in the family at all, the charge will lie at the door—not of Mr. Tilton—but of his wife.

BOWEN INTERVIEWED—HIS VIEWS.

The Washington *Sun* publishes an interview with Henry C. Bowen, who is represented as saying of the Beecher-Tilton case: "This entire business has caused me much pain. I have had no hand in it, and do not wish to have. The public will yet learn that the attacks on me were brutal and unjustifiable. I only keep quiet under them, in deference to my family. Although my name has been mixed up in this scandal, I have not made any charges against anybody yet, and therefore I have not been invited by the Committee to appear. If subpœnaed to appear in court, of course I will have to appear." Mr. Bowen alluded to the agitation shown by Mrs. Hooker in Plymouth Church, caused by her belief in Mr. Beecher's immorality, and but for the fact that she was restrained, she would have announced it to the congregation. Being asked if Mr. Beecher ever did him injury, Mr. Bowen said: "I could construe his course unkindly. I considered it all along unjust. My duty nevertheless, to retain my position and pew in the church, because *I intended to be there after him* as I was there before him." As to Mr. Tilton, Mr. Bowen said "he didn't care which way it went with him. The end must necessarily justify me before the public, and I will never go down to my grave without saying something concerning my relations with this scoundrel. Moulton," continued Mr. Bowen "is placed in an awkward position, but I believe in time he will tell the truth. The statement of Woodhull offered to the Committee should have been received. Were I a member of the Committee I would accept testimony from every source."

LETTER FROM CATHERINE E. BEECHER.

NEW YORK, August 7.—The following will appear to-morrow:

To the Editor of the Tribune:

SIR—Until recently I had supposed that the secular, and especially the religious press, would maintain the sacred rule of justice that established character is full evidence against unproved attacks. I had supposed that charges against such a character would be treated as slander until fully proved. I am the elder sister of seven ministers of Christ of whom I can say that from their earliest childhood, I never knew of an impure word or act by any one of them, and therefore, when the one, who from early youth has loved a model lover and husband, was accursed by a hapless women, tortured into self-accusation in temporary insanity, I supposed that established character was his sure protection, and felt it to be an insult to him, his family, and his church, that an investigation was demanded to prove his innocence. And it has been with a shivering sense of danger to every delicate and pure woman that I have heard it so often claimed that in this case, there must be suspended judgment. regard this treatment of my brother as a declared war on womanhood. It is practically saying "Let any vile woman, or viler man, accuse any lady of the most disgusting crime, and she shall be 'suspended' before the public as guilty until she proves her innocence." In the public papers already, pure and distinguished ladies are being assailed as is my brother, and I ask every honorable man who has a mother, wife or sister, whom he respects, to come to the rescue, by maintaining that all persons shall be treated as slanderous, who circulate unproved attacks on established character. This is not written in aid of a brother who is sure to be still more beloved and respected than ever. It is an appeal for protection of my sex.

(Signed) CATHARINE E. BEECHER.

Brooklyn, N. Y., August 7, 1874.

AUSTIN, MISSISSIPPI.

Occupation of the Town by Negroes--Preparations to Dislodge Them---Expedition Fitting Out at Memphis---Intervention of the Governor---The Trouble Subsides and Peace Reigns.

MEMPHIS, August 11.—A third dispatch has been received from the vicinity of Austin, asking for men, arms and ammunition, stating that unless the whites, who are surrounded in the Court House, are speedily relieved, they will be forced to surrender or be captured. The steamer A. J. White has been chartered to leave at five o'clock, and will carry a large number of men well armed.

Another special to the *Appeal* says that the negroes surrounding Austin on the south were charged this morning by a body of mounted whites, who killed four or five and captured twenty negroes. The blacks number about seven hundred, while the whites have about two hundred. Both parties are exchanging reinforcements. At present the whites have the best of the fight. The negro hands on the plantations opposite on the Arkansas side are arming, and marching on Austin in large numbers.

Later.—The excitement here in regard to the riot at Austin is increasing. The operator at Helena, Arkansas, reports that the negroes have been passing there on the Mississippi side all day, marching on Austin. The steamer A. J. White left this afternoon at five o'clock, with about three hundred armed men and supplies, under the command of Col. Morgan, of Hernando, Mississippi, about half of whom are from Mississippi, and among whom are some twenty negroes who say they want this foolishness stopped. The remainder are from this city. Large numbers of men have gone by land, and if the whites can hold the Court House till to-night, reinforcements in sufficient numbers will have arrived to relieve them.

LATEST.

An *Avalanche* special, dated at noon, says: In the fight at Austin, last night, eight orten negroes were killed. Reinforcements are coming in to the whites from the hills, and the negroes are being reinforced from the surrounding country. The whites have Austin barricaded, and will probably be able to keep the negroes off, but they need assistance in provisions and ammunition. Several officials from Tunica, have been here since yesterday morning telegraphing to Governor Ames at Jackson for assistance, but up to this time have not heard a word. The special states that the whites have taken O. K. Landing, some three miles below Austin, and the only landing in that vicinity at this present stage of the river, and corroborated by the officers of the H. C. Yeager, which arrived here to-night, who saw a body of armed white men there as they passed.

MEMPHIS, TENN., August 12.—Parties who arrived by the steamer St. Francis state that the negroes occupied Austin at two o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Capt. Jas. Lee, of the steamer St. Francis, which arrived from below this morning, says that after the negroes, who had Austin surrounded, were repulsed yesterday they disappeared, and a story was soon circulated that they were murdering the women and children left unprotected on the surrounding plantations, which caused the men who had been defending the place to start for their homes to protect their families, and Austin was soon left without any defenders, except one or two white men. The negroes came in and took possession, and proceeded to break open the stores and help themselves. The following is being posted about the city:

"Reliable men wanted—to report on board the steamer St. Francis, at four o'clock this day. Arms and ammunition will be furnished to them; also three hundred men, well armed and equipped, to report at the same time and place. About twenty good artillerists are wanted. General King White, of Arkansas, will assume command of the above men."

This poster has added to the excitement. It is thought a thousand men will go to-night on the St. Francis. Three pieces of artillery are expected from Lonecke, Arkansas, this afternoon.

MEMPHIS, August 12.—The latest reports from Austin state that the improvised troops had disbanded and gone home, and that peace was restored. The impression prevails here that a few determined men could have prevented the whole affair at the outset by meeting the negroes before summoning help from elsewhere.

ANOTHER Southern gentleman has died with his boots on. His name was Robert Reed, and he lived in that peaceful, Christian city called Helena, in Arkansas. He died last time kept a whirl-foot at the mouth of White River; but the place became a little warm for him after he had killed a few people, whose principal offence was that they lived in that neighborhood. He also had an eccentric mania for practicing upon the crews of steamboats which touched there, and finally had to leave. He then went to Helena, where there were more opportunities for this sort of thing and where his talent was better appreciated. Unfortunately, he associated with himself a partner, and, before he had been in business long, he announced his intention to kill him. His partner being a prompt and energetic business man, however, did not relish the proposition, and anticipated him by filling him full of the contents of a double-barreled gun. As the Helena *World* touchingly expresses it, "His light went out on the pavement in front of Ehrman's cigar-store." The partner went away, and the authorities made no effort to apprehend him. It is sad to contemplate the number of Southern gentlemen who have died of late with their boots on.

Democracy is stripping itself to the buff of its long and conspicuously practiced hypocrisy.

Eastern shoe manufacturers say they never before had so many heavy orders on hand at this season as now.

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 11, 1874.

Reorganization of the State-Boiler Commission.

The Secretary of the Treasury has addressed a letter to a distinguished scientist, a Professor in one of the leading institutions of learning in the United States, tendering to him the Chairmanship and supreme direction of the future experiments in regard to steam-boiler explosions. The results of that investigation so far have amounted to nothing at all, and it is the intention of the Secretary to make the most out of what remains of the appropriation. Aside from the incompetency, scientifically, of the entire Commission as constituted prior to the removal of General Smith, Secretary Richardson, and Secretary Robeson are responsible for the past failure. After the passage of the act the President entrusted these officers with the organization of the Commission, and the determination of the general rules to govern its labors. They had every advice that could have been necessary, to make persons of ordinary intelligence to create a Commission of some credit to the government and worthy of the great work it has undertaken. It was suggested to them in a letter addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury to pay no salaries, and to create a Board composed of the Supervising Inspecting General as chairman, the chief engineer of the navy, a competent engineer from the army, a lawyer from the Department of Justice, the President or capable representatives of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Troy, Steven's Institute of Technology, Hoboken, New Jersey, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, and the Scientific School of Yale College, New Haven, the Presidents of the Steamboat and American Railway Master Mechanics' Association, a certain number of practical mechanical engineers, and the heads of several of the leading boiler manufacturing firms in the United States. It is to be seen that such a Commission would have assured every degree of scientific and practical skill necessary to make the experiments a triumphant success. Secretary Bristow, in connection with his other excellent reforms, has taken this matter in hand. It is known to be his determination to carry the experiments forward at once, and to have them completed before Congress meets. The name of the gentleman selected by the Secretary is withheld, for the reason that it is not known whether he will accept the place. It is believed that with such a head, the present Commission may be utilized. The time is now considered long enough to undergo such a change as might be desirable. The appointment of a chairman of the Commission will have nothing to do with filling the vacant post of Supervising Inspector General of Steamboats.

Badness of the Boiler Commission.

The charges preferred against General Smith, late Supervising Inspector General of Steamboats, have opened an amount of inquiry into the operations of the Commission appointed to conduct the inquiries into the causes of steam-boiler explosions, which seems not likely to result in much credit to its members. The general impression here is that the whole Commission should be reorganized, and an investigation will be made of the value of the work so far accomplished. The Secretary of the Treasury is extremely desirous of having the balance of the appropriation at last put to some practical use, and there are various doubts whether the present Commission is capable of meeting the emergency. At all events it is believed to deserve investigation before any more expenditures are made. The scientific element in the country have already expressed their dissatisfaction.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE

France.

ESCAPE OF MARSHAL BAZAINE

LONDON, August 11.—The following interesting particulars of the escape of Marshal Bazaine from his prison on the Isle of Ste. Marguerite has been received:

The apartments occupied by the Marshal opened upon a terrace which was built upon a lofty and precipitous cliff overhanging the sea. A sentry was posted on the terrace, with orders to watch the prisoner's every movement. During Sunday evening, the Marshal walked upon the terrace with Colonel Villette, his aid-de-camp. At ceo o'clock he retired as usual, apparently to sleep, but before daybreak it had effected his escape. He must have crossed the terrace in the dead of night, and eluding the sentinel, gained the edge of the precipice. Thence by means of a knotted rope, he descended to the sea. He evidently slipped during the descent, and tore his hands, as the rope was found stained with blood in several places. Under the cliff in a hired boat were Bazaine's wife and cousin. They received him as he reached the water, and Madame Bazaine, disguising herself, rowed directly to a strange steamer, which had been lying off the island since the previous evening. They reached the vessel in safety, and were taken on board and the steamer then put to sea. It is thought that they have landed at Geneva, as the steamer proceeded in that direction. The last news we have came to Grasse, the nearest place on the coast, and the magistrates of that town immediately sent officers in every direction to search for the fugitive. There was a great commotion in Marseilles, when the facts became known, an investigation was ordered. Colonel Villette, who was walking on the terrace when Bazaine made his escape, was discovered there, and imprisoned. The commandant of the fort of Ste Marguerite was placed under arrest, and General Chalmers has gone to the island to investigate the affair.

THE PARISIAN ACCOUNT.

PARIS, August 11.—It is reported that Marshal Bazaine landed at San Remo, and traveled via Turin to Basle. At the latter place he took the train to Brussels, where he arrived at seven o'clock Tuesday morning. It is believed here that the rope found on the cliff at the Isle of Ste. Marguerite was used by Bazaine in descending to the fortifications. It is believed that with such a head, the present Commission may be utilized. The time is now considered long enough to undergo such a change as might be desirable. The appointment of a chairman of the Commission will have nothing to do with filling the vacant post of Supervising Inspector General of Steamboats.

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PARTICULARS OF BAZAINE'S ESCAPE.

PARIS, August 12.—It has been ascertained that the plan for Marshal Bazaine's escape from the Island of Ste. Marguerite was arranged six weeks ago. It was the work of Madame Bazaine. The Marshal refused at first to fly, but finally, owing to his failure to obtain some modification of his sentence, yielded. He sailed from the island in the steam yacht Baron Ricasoli, belonging to an Italian company. The prisoner refused to employ a French vessel. He was accompanied in his flight by his wife and brother. His place of refuge is not known. Some persons say he is in Spain. The domesfies at the fort where the Marshal was imprisoned have been arrested.

PARIS, August 12.—The *Journal des Debates* says that the prime of which Bazaine was convicted renders him liable to extradition, and France should demand his surrender.

England.

CONDITION AND PROSPECTS OF THE WHEAT CROP.

LONDON, August 12.—The Mark Lane *Express*, in its review of the breadstuffs market, has the following in regard to the wheat crop:

"We are now at the middle of harvest, and new wheat shows nothing to indicate more than average quality and growth, though some of it shows more than average ripeness. Some of the contemporaries say the crop will be two-thirds above average; others one-third, and others about average, while some think it will be below average. The appearance of wheat is yet unharvested, and an increase of rain would be serious. There is a great diversity of opinion about crops in France and Belgium.

In closing its review, the *Express* says: "We do not see how the price of wheat can be much depressed."

Spain.

RECOGNITION OF THE REPUBLIC BY ENGLAND, FRANCE AND GERMANY.

MADRID, August 12.—The *Imparcial* reports that England, France and Germany have formally recognized the Spanish Republic.

PARIS, August 12.—The Spanish representative at Paris has applied to Madrid for the full credentials of a Minister, as France has declared her readiness to recognize Spain.

CHANGE OF MINISTRY IMMINENT.

LONDON, August 12.—A change of ministry is imminent at Madrid. It is thought that General Dominique will succeed to the supreme command of the Army of the North.

Marine News.

LIVERPOOL, August 12.—Steamships Belgic, Neckar, Victoria and Samaria, from New York, arrived out.

BLAIRSVILLE.

Death of a Bank President---The Storm of Yesterday.

BLAIRSVILLE, PA., August 12, 1874.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

Columbus Bell, President of the First National Bank of Blairsville, died at his residence this morning. He was one of our most esteemed citizens.

A violent storm passed over here this afternoon, about three o'clock. There was much wind but little rain. The damage is to fruit alone.

STATE NEWS.

Scarlet fever afflicts the little ones in Erie.

Frog suppers are all the go in Snyder county.

There is talk of a fine new market house in Franklin.

Wilkesbarre is talking of having a marble statue of Judge Conyngham.

The new brush factory at Franklin will be in operation within a few months.

The first Mennonite church in Dauphin county was dedicated on Sunday last.

There are between 30,000,000 and 40,000,000 feet of logs in the boom at Williamsport.

The Forsythe Scale Works, an extensive concern in Rochester, N. Y., is to be removed to Erie.

The Reading *Eagle* has just had set up in its office a four-cylinder Hoe press. The paper is highly prosperous, and deservedly so.

A baptism of a child took place in Reading recently, where the great-great-grandmother and the grandfather stood as sponsors.

The order of Patriotic Sons of America is growing in strength in this State. There are now 250 camps, with a membership of 25,000.

W. W. Paxton, late associate judge of Franklin county, died at his residence, in Chambersburg, in the sixty-third year of his age.

An Eastern minister recently preached four sermons, conducted a funeral, and officiated at the laying of a corner-stone, all in one day.

A Norristown baby is said to have inherited the eyes and nose of his father, but the cheek of his uncle, who is an insurance agent.

Jacob and Susan Rhoads, of Charlestown township, Chester county, will celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of their wedding on the 16th inst.

It is proposed to hold a general reunion of soldiers who served in the late war, at Lake Carey, near Tunkhannock, some time in September.

A recent fire caused by friction of the machinery, in Wood's cotton mills, is Millville, caused damage to the amount of nearly $53,000 worth of property.

Kinsloe, of the Hughesville *Enterprise*, is publishing a burlesque *expose* of the initiation ceremony of the Grangers. The wood cuts are fearfully and wonderfully made.

The Reformed Mennonite church, of Phœnixville, has a difficulty. The members have dismissed two gentlemen from the Board of Trustees, and the matter is to be carried into Court.

The Philadelphia *Press* wants to know "what we shall do with the grasshoppers?" Let them wait until Forney gets back and then they can eat the *Press* and—die.—*Williamsport Gazette.*

Matthew Zahm, of Lancaster, who has been crier of the court of Lancaster county for over half a century, is lying at the point of death, having been stricken with paralysis. Mr. Zahm is eighty-six years old.

Elisha Dixon, convicted at Johnstown of the crime of rape upon a person of Maggie Heckman, aged nine years, has been sentenced to four years' imprisonment in the Western Penitentiary, a fine of $100 and the costs of prosecution.

A young man at Marysville tried to save twenty-one cents by stealing a ride on a freight train, recently; but he fell under the cars and had both feet so badly mashed that they had to be amputated, and he is now a cripple for life.

A man went into a grocery store in Hyde Park, and wanted to know if the proprietor could accommodate him with "an empty hogshead of sugar to make a *pig-pen* for his dog." Of course he was from the "Grand Old State."

E. M. Wiggins, aged thirty-eight years, employed in the Auditor's office of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway in Meadville, committed suicide on Tuesday morning by blowing his brains out with a revolver. Too much liquor.

A three days' encampment of the National Guards of Washington, Greene, Fayette, Westmoreland and Somerset counties, will be held at Bradford, Fayette county (on the Connellsville Railroad) some time in September. The exact date is not fixed.

For the week closing on the first of August the shipments of lumber from Williamsport reached 297 cars and nineteen boats, making an aggregate of 4,592,-880 feet. This is an increase of 1,078,411 feet over the shipments of the previous week.

The health of Philadelphia continues remarkably good. Last week there were but 325 deaths, against 347 the preceding week, and 362 for the corresponding period of 1873. The city continues entirely free from epidemic, and even the number of deaths from the usual summer complaints are hardly falling off.

The cabbage worm has made its advent at North East, according to the *Sun*. It is from half an inch to an inch and a half long, and lies close to the stem of the leaf, making it difficult to discover. Strong soap suds is recommended, and if laid on the plants is said to be sure death to the pests, besides acting as a fertilizer to the cabbage.

The following startling notice is posted in a rural district of Blair county: To the citizens of ——— All Men wanting to pay His Road tax By work Can Do So by Coming and working any day next week as I will be here all week on the Roades,

Supervisor.

Bring Shove and matic along.

The Williamsport *Register* suggests that the lumber interest should be well represented at the Centennial, and recommends the erection of a building in which all kinds of our woods shall be used, and in which may be exhibited specimens of all our ligneous growths, both in the rough and in finished states. The suggestion is worthy of attention.

Last June one H. P. Miller, *alias* Hiram Haas, had a forged note discounted by the Shamokin Banking Company. For this offense the Court at Sunbury has sentenced him to pay a fine of five dollars, restore the money, pay costs of prosecution and to undergo imprisonment in the solitary confinement at hard labor in the Eastern Penitentiary for the term of three years.

Some one in Pittsburgh sent a dispatch to Petrolia on Monday night, stating that the Collyer-Edwards prize fight would take place between Brady's Bend and Petrolia. The news spread like wild-fire, and ere daybreak Tuesday morning every man and boy in the last mentioned place were on the road, seeking the point of battle, only to find that they had been badly sold.

Erie has about completed a reservoir on the highlands south of the city which is estimated to contain 32,000,000 gallons of water when filled. It required two million brick to cover its inside surface, and the wall across its center reaches to within six feet of the top. The water is pumped into it from the bay, about three hundred feet below and two miles from it.

What is home without a mother? The Allentown *Chronicle* says: A story comes to us about a mother whose child was buried last week, and who stayed from the funeral and washed, remarking that whoever plants the grass that grows on the dead shall not be bothered with it. The family live in the northern part of this city, and her heartless conduct has created quite a sensation in the neighborhood where she resides.

The Easton *Free Press* relates the following: Morgan Powell was murdered at Summit Hill about this time two years ago. No clue of his murderers was obtained. Last week S. McDermott, of Summit Hill, was arrested for a trifling offense by certain parties, and lodged in jail for one night. On his release he intimated that he could reveal something of Powell's murderers. On this he was arrested and held in bail for a hearing at March Chunk. The hearing took place yesterday. At first McDermott denied having made such intimations, but on being closely pressed, said he supposed he might as well own up, when he told what he knew or not. He then stated that a miner named Malloy McCoy and one other miner committed the deed. A detective from the coal and iron police went to the mines to-day to arrest the parties named by McDermott.

Spain.

What We Owe.

According to the New York *Shipping Gazette*, the aggregate of the debts of the country, national, State, county, municipal and individual, may be summed up as follows:

National debt	$2,149,725,277
Bonds to railway companies	64,023,512
Interest on bonds... estimated	18,617,745
Unsettled liabilities... estimated	100,000,000
State and municipal	1,000,000,000
Loans, &c., by National banks	941,253,304
Loans, &c., by State banks, &c	514,081,396
Loans, &c., by the same in Twenty-eight States, &c., estimated	1,500,000,000
Individuals to each other, &c., estimated	2,000,000,000
Funded, &c., of railroads	1,511,518,944
Making a total of	$9,952,820,037

This is equal to $248 per captia for the entire population. But of course it does not bear equally on all. The nation also owes, according to recent estimates, not less than $230,000,000 on account of unsettled claims pending before Congress, the departments or the courts. On the greater part of this debt interest is paid at an average rate of six per cent. It is impossible to asceriain how much of this indebtedness is held abroad. Bonds are sent abroad and others are sent home at short intervals. Aside from the national debt, most of the claims represent material improvements, although nearly eighty millions of the national debt, most of the claims represent material improvements, although nearly eighty millions of the national debt represents the principal and interest on railroad bonds which have been loaned, and for which there are only nominal securities.

POLITICAL.

New Jersey.

WILLIAM W. PHELPS RENOMINATED IN THE FIFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

PATTERSON, N. J., August 12.—William Walter Phelps, of the Fifth Congressional district of New Jersey, was renominated this afternoon by acclamation. The resolutions declare in favor of a protective tariff, civil rights and specie payments.

Nebraska.

INDEPENDENT CONVEN

EXTENSIVE FIRE.

THE STANDARD OIL REFINERY ABLAZE

Loss $50,000 to $75,000—Buildings and Large Amount of Oil Destroyed—Many Barrels Burned.

During the storm, reported elsewhere, which took place Wednesday afternoon, the lightning struck in several places and caused much damage. A tank containing 3,000 barrels of oil at the Fairview oil works, on the south side of the Allegheny river, in Ross township, was struck by lightning and the contents were totally destroyed, involving considerable loss.

The largest fire which has taken place in this city for a long time, occurred at the works of the Standard oil refinery located near the bank of the Allegheny river.

THE STANDARD WORKS

are located as stated and are in the Eighteenth ward. The officers of the company are, M. Graver, President, and A. J. Brookes, Secretary. The office down town is on Duquesne Way. The company at the place named own and occupy about twenty acres area, the works are among the largest in this vicinity. The buildings are located on both sides of the Allegheny Valley Railroad, and are among the neatest and most substantial used for the business. The refinery proper is located south of the railroad while the receiving tanks for both refined and crude oils, together with the distillate house, the paint-shop, warehouse, etc., are below the railroad and between that and the river. The buildings south of the railroad are located a considerable distance from it, while those on the north are close upon it. They were ranged lengthwise and, altogether, extended a distance of two hundred feet, with a width of fifty feet toward the main. In the rear of these were located a number of tanks. Between the railroad and the buildings last mentioned, and in the open air, the barrels were put in order, and a large number of them were lying there at the time of the fire.

THE FIRE.

It was about a quarter past three o'clock when the lightning struck No. 10 tank of crude oil, which was located on the northern side of the railroad and near the west end of the works. The oil was set on fire, and although it burned fiercely, particular apprehension for the works was not felt. An alarm was sent from box 85, the nearest, but it failed to work, and box 76, at Forty-eighth street was tried with success. This alarm was received at near four o'clock, and was responded to by the Independence and the Cross Engine companies, the Niagara Hose Company and the Harry Lyver Hook and Ladder Company, with Assistant Chief Engineer Hamill in command. Chief White did not respond for the reason that his horse on account of lameness was out of service.

FURTHER AID CALLED.

Upon his arrival on the ground, Assistant Chief Hamill finding that the fire was likely to be extensive, had a telegram sent in calling the Chief Engineer and Henry Hays engine company, which was promptly responded to. A volume of flame shot up from the burning oil to a great height, creating destruction to all the buildings near as well as to the immense quantities of oil and other valuable goods stored near. The workmen engaged in the refinery set to work removing empty barrels and other moveable property while the flames flooded the nearest buildings, tanks, &c., with water. The oil continued to burn, without any spread of the flames, until about seven o'clock, when

A SECOND ALARM.

was found necessary, and was given from box No. 74. This brought the Eagle, Duquesne and Creighton engine companies, the latter from East Liberty. The occasion of this alarm was the bursting of the tank from which the flames spread to the distillate house, a two-story brick building located at the west end of the property. At this time the heat in the immediate vicinity became intense, and the firemen were forced to retreat from the place they had heretofore held.

From a corn-field west of the property the Henry Hays boys had a fine hair hose, as also had those who were upon the railroad in front of the buildings. Nearly four hundred feet of these were burned or so damaged as to be rendered worthless. The fire spread to the settling house in the rear of the main buildings on that side of the railroad track, and thence took up the others fronting the track. There was no possibility of saving any of these, but the firemen labored to keep down the flame so that the main buildings upon the north side of the track might be preserved. In this they entirely succeeded, and deserve much credit. They also saved a barrel storage house, a brick building to the east and also on the south side of the track.

At about nine o'clock the Chief Engineer was enabled to send three of the engine companies home but the oil still burned fiercely and cast a glare over the whole horizon.

THE LOSS, INSURANCE, &c.

All of the buildings between the railroad and the river, except the small one to the east, already mentioned, were totally destroyed together with all the oil in tank and barrels, stored there. The buildings were worth probably $15,000. The loss in oil was 7,500 barrels crude and 1,800 barrels refined. Of these between 500 and 600 empty barrels were burned. The officers of the company estimate the loss at from $50,000 to $75,000, but congratulate themselves upon the saving of the main portion of the refinery and state nearly all the loss to be by insurance amounts to between $25,000 and $35,000, distributed among the following Pittsburgh companies: Pittsburgh, Orient, Citizens', Artisans', Boatmen's and People's, and the National of Allegheny city. This insurance is upon buildings and contents.

Several rails of the Valley road were warped but none of the cross-ties were burned. Upon the second alarm Messrs. Wilson, McIlroy and Larimer of the Board of Fire Commissioners, who were to have attended a meeting of the Board, repaired to the scene and aided in the work of the firemen. Mr. Joseph Torrey, also of the Commission, arrived at about ten o'clock. The Standard Company may be congratulated that their loss is not greater, for which much credit is due the firemen.

A LIGHTNING FIRE.

Crude Oil Set Ablaze at Fairview.

Besides the fire at the Standard Oil Works, reported elsewhere, another was kindled by the lightning yesterday. During the progress of the storm yesterday afternoon, an electric bolt struck a crude oil tank at Fairview, on the Pennsylvania Railroad, and set it on fire. The tank was a large one, having a capacity of 25,000 barrels, but it contained only 3,000 barrels of crude oil, owned by Dr. Arnold Hirtz.

The tank was run down, and the burning oil ran out and down the hill, on the side of which the tank stood. The burning stream struck the railroad and ran along the track for some distance, burning ties and warping the rails to a considerable extent; and, leaving the railroad, it ran, a torrent of flame, into the river. The telegraph poles along the "burnt district" on the railroad were burned off and the wires thrown to the ground.

No buildings were burned, but the report that early in the evening were current to the effect that several lives were lost, was without foundation. The loss on the oil will amount to about $2,000. That to the track in damage done to the railroad about $2,000. The trains on the railroad were delayed some time.

An Important Invention.

An English inventor has patented an ingenious method of preventing the bursting of water pipes by frost. Water, in freezing expands about a twelfth of its bulk, and within that limit the expansive force exerted is so enormous as to overcome the resistance of any pipe or vessel yet constructed. The difficulty is obviated by passing through the water pipes an India rubber tube of such diameter that the space inside is a little more than equal to the increase in volume of water by freezing. There is thus secured in the middle of the pipe a space equal to the difference of volume between water and ice, so that when the water freezes and expands it compresses the space thus reserved for it instead of exerting its force on the pipe. The India-rubber tube is always kept full of air, so that, when the water freezes, it finds at every point the necessary space to occupy, for by compression the water displaces the air and takes its place. Again, when the ice melts, the air-tube expands, ready to be acted upon by another frost. The air is supplied from a reservoir, which is acted upon by the water pressure, so as automatically to put the air-tube under exactly corresponding degree of tension. By heating the air in the tube the water pipes can be thawed. This application is peculiarly useful in the case of water-closets, and in preventing the supply of cold water to engine boilers becoming interrupted by frost. Not less important is it that the invention is applied to preventing the explosion of kitchen boilers.

The Tomato.

This is the season when the tomato, one of the most delicious of all the vegetables, finds a place upon our tables. As various assertions have been made by men of the school of Dio Lewis regarding the bad effects of eating tomatoes, and as some persons are doubtless influenced by these assertions, it is well to state what medical proprieties are claimed for the tomato by a physician of celebrity, viz:

1. That the tomato is one of the most powerful specifics of the human system, and that in all those affections of the liver and organs, where calomel is indicated, it is probably the most active and least harmful remedial agent known to the profession.

2. That a chemical extract pill can be obtained from it which will altogether supersede the use of calomel in the cure of disease.

3. That he has successfully treated diarrhœa with this article alone.

4. That when used as an article of diet, it is almost a sovereign remedy for dyspepsia and indigestion.

5. That the citizens in ordinary life should make use of it either raw, cooked, or in form of catsup, with their daily food, as it is a most healthy article.

Pittsburgh Mortuary Report.

Dr. W. Snively, Physician to the Pittsburgh Board of Health, has issued the following mortuary report for Pittsburgh, for the week ending August 8th: Of those dying 83 were white and 2 were colored: 12 were married, 70 were single and 3 were widows; 66 were natives of the United States, 3 of England, 1 of France, 6 of Germany, 7 of Ireland, 1 of Scotland and 1 other foreigner. Total number of deaths for the week 85. The ages of those dying were as follows: 1 under one year, 31 from one to two years, 16 from two to five, 8 from five to ten, 5 from twenty to thirty, 2 from thirty to forty, 7 from forty to sixty, 1 from fifty to sixty, 4 from sixty to seventy, 4 from seventy to eighty, 3.

The causes of death were as follows: Accident, 1; appoplexy, cerebral, 1; congestion of brain, 1; bronchitis, acute, 1; cancer of stomach, 1; cholera, infantum, 18; cerebritis, 2; consumption, 5; convulsions, 8; diphtheritis, 2; debilitation, morbid, 1; diarrhœa, 6; dysentery, acute, 2; Enteritis, acute, 3; Erysipelas, 1; fever, typhoid, 4; fever, scarlet, 3; fever, puerperal, 1; fracture of base of skull, 1; gastro enteritis; 1 heart, disease not specified, 2; heart, valvular disease, 1; hepatitis, chronic, 2; Inanition, 3; marasmus, 1; meningitis, acute, 1; measles, 2; metro-peritonitis, 1; old age, 1; pneumonitis, acute, 2; scrofula, 1; tabes mesenterica, 1; whooping cough, 3.

Pittsburgh Banks.

Through the courtesy of Mr. George A. Fowell, Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue, we are enabled to give the following interesting facts regarding the banks in the Twenty-second District, other than National banks. Of this class of banks there are sixty-three, and the revenue tax is one twenty-fourth of one per cent. on their average deposits. These returns are made monthly and paid in half yearly. The figures given below are the average capital employed and the average deposits of the past six months. Following is the statement:

Average capital	$ 6,775,398 00
Average deposits	15,350,579 00

The National banks make returns directly to the National Treasury, and are not included in the above.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, August 12, 1874.

We observe of late a growing disinclination on the part of creditors to force delinquent debtors to the wall, or into the bankrupt courts, and we take it as a harbinger of better times to come. The terrors of bankruptcy have been too often used as a whip to scourge men into the payment of claims which frequently had no more right to a preference or to speedy payment than any or all the other liabilities of a struggling firm, but in so many cases has the threat driven well meaning concerns to the alternative of making a voluntary petition for such adjudication in order that every creditor should receive his just share of their assets, that holders of claims begin now to hesitate before agitating the method which is and has been considered the last resort.

The various fees and costs and professed claims, as a rule, have so eaten into the property of most parties who have been forced into bankruptcy that experience shows in the vast majority of instances that the general creditor, the unsecured individual, by the time all these expenses have been paid in cash from the first receipts of the assignee, manages usually to receive a mere beggarly percentage instead of the whole claim, as in many instances was too confidently anticipated.

Experienced business men with whom we have had conversations on the subject allege that they will in the future accept any compromise approaching fifty per cent. of their claims rather than see their debtors adjudged bankrupts and they base this conclusion not on mere theory, but from the fact that in numerous bankrupt cases, coming in the course of their own business and under their immediate observation, their returns have either been absolutely *nil* or else so nearly approaching nothing as to make the entire proceeding almost a farce.

Of course there are exceptions to this rule, but as a rule, it holds. Methods of amicable adjustment in instances where there is no question as to the honesty of the insolvent are easy to attain and these methods experience as shown to be largely more productive of good results than those of gripping the poor unfortunate with the iron hand of the law.

A striking instance of the revulsion of feeling in respect to bankruptcy is exhibited in the matter of the Allegheny Valley Railroad Company, at present in process of settlement. A few weeks ago the creditors were in the mood for having naught except "what the Court awards and the law doth give;" when lo! a composition is suggested at once fair, honorable and giving promise of eventual payment, and those who were loudest in crying litigate are now most vehement in urging all parties in interest to settle, and that speedily.

—It has been decided that the seat of a member in a Stock Exchange or similar institution does not form a portion of his available assets, and hence cannot be sold by a receiver or assignee in bankruptcy.

H. C. Hyde, assignee, vs. Woods & Co., San Francisco. Judge Sawyer took the ground that a member cannot dispose of his seat to another unless the Association shall accept that other in his stead, in the mode and upon the terms prescribed. His general creditors can obtain through him no greater rights of property than he himself possesses. His privileges as a member could not be seized and sold on execution, and transferred to another in violation of the right secured by the contract of the Association, nor could a court of bankruptcy override the rights of the association or its members, secured to them by the terms of the contract under which he acquires any rights at all as a member, by disposing of a greater interest than he himself possesses. The only property of a pecuniary nature in Fenn after his default in the Board until he resigned was the privilege of his seat by the Board in accordance with its prescribed usages, or with the assent of the Board, and payment of his indebtedness to the members of the Board, incurred in the transaction of its business. This is all that, under any circumstances, would be available to the general creditor, or with which the Court of Bankruptcy has any concern. The rest is the property of the Board and its members, not Fenn's.

—Our former townsman, Audley W. Gazzam, Esq., appears in the Jay Cooke & Co. bankruptcy case, and it is at his instance that the examination of the individual members of the firm is being made, in order to find out whether any of the firm's money was lost in a manner not strictly *en regle*.

The examination of Jay Cooke will be continued on September 15. That of Henry D. Cooke will be resumed and of Mr. Fahnestock begun at an early date not yet fixed. Mr. Gazzam represents Mr. William Torrode, a small creditor, at present residing in New York city.

—On and after November 1st, 1874, interest will cease on the following bonds, they being the ones included in the 10th call of the government:

Coupon bonds, known as the third series, act of February 25, 1862, dated May 1st, 1862, as follows:

COUPON BONDS.

$50—No. 12,201 to No. 15,000, both inclusive; $100—No. 38,201 to No. 45,100, both inclusive; $500—No. 19,461 to No. 28,700, both inclusive; $1,000—No. 1 to No. 20,200, both inclusive. Total, $20,000,000.

REGISTERED BONDS.

$50—No. 1,491 to No. 1,594, both inclusive; $100—No. 10,701 to No. 13,300, both inclusive; $500—No. 6,401 to No. 7,700, both inclusive; $1,000—No. 20,967 to No. 31,600, both inclusive; $5,000—No. 4,304 to No. 9,900, both inclusive; $10,000—No. 10,001 to No. 11,750, both inclusive. Total, $5,000,000. Grand total, $25,000,000.

Of the amount outstanding (embraced in the numbers as above) $20,000,000 are coupon bonds, and five million dollars ($5,000,000) are registered bonds. The interest, due November 1st, 1874, on the registered bonds embraced in this call will be paid with the principal of the bonds.

—Petroleum Oil—We quote carbon oil from store at 12@12½c ₱ gal; in car lots at the usual deduction. The market is dull and prices drooping.

LARD OIL—The market is firm and prices have advanced; extra No. 1, 84 to 86 ₱ gallon; No. 1, 76@80c. No. 2, 70@75c. Demand active with light supply.

TALLOW—Sales at 7@7½c ₱ lb for prime and 6¼@6¾c for medium. Demand good and market firm.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALES—X ₱ 60 ₱ bbl; XX $10 00 ₱ bbl; India ale $11 00 ₱ bbl; Bass' English ale, in kilderkins of 22 gallons, $21 00@25 00; bbls, 41 gallons, $40 00@41 00; hhds, 83 gallons, $82 50@85 00; in cases, 4 doz bottles, $20 75. Wm. Younger's India pale ale, in case of 8 doz bottles, $2 75@3 00 ₱ doz; Robert Younger's sparkling ale, $2 75@3 00 ₱ doz; Guinness stouts, bottled by A. Burke, $2 75@3 00 ₱ doz. Canada ale, Cochrane's ginger ale, $2 75 ₱ doz; Caswell, Hazard & Co.'s ginger ale, $1 75 ₱ doz.

ALCOHOL AND HIGHWINES—The market is firm We quote alcohol at $2 10@2 15 ₱ gallon; Highwines firm at $1 02@1 04 ₱ gallon.

ASHES—Soda ashes, 4½@4¾c; common 3½@4c; black lead 5c; arsenic 5c; potash 9c ₱ lb.

BROOMS—We quote as follows: Common $1 75 @2 00 ₱ dozen; medium $2 25@2 50; good $2 75@ 3 25; choice $3 50@3 75; extra $4 00; carpet brooms $4 00@4 25; whisps $1 50@1 75 ₱ dozen.

BROOM CORN—Market quiet. We note sales of Hurrai at 9@10c; green hurrai 7c; red 5@6c.

BANNER BAKING POWDER—Sales as follows: ¼ lb cans $1 50 ₱ doz; ½ lb cans $2 75; 1 lb cans $5 50; 5 lb cans $26 00; 10 lb boxes 40c ₱ lb. Market steady and demand good.

CORDAGE—Manila, A Brown cottons 11c; Eagle lic; Idaho 10¼c; Duquesne 9½c; Mungo 9½c. Iron Mill, No. 1, 8½c; No. 2, 8c; No. 3, 7½c. Navy, No. 1, 8½c; No. 2, 8c; No. 3, 7½c. Jute, B fine 9½c; Penn Mill 2-thus bags 32c; do 2¼ 40c; do 3-thus 48c; Kentucky 2-thus 32c; do 2¼ 40c; do 3-thus 48c; colored 38c; cotton batting 16c; cotton twine 31c.

CEMENT—Louisville hydraulic cement $2 00@ 2 25 ₱ bbl; Phœnix hydraulic cement $2 00@2 25 ₱ bbl; Rosendale cement $3 50@4 00; Youghiogheny $1 75@2 00; Portland cement $7 50@8 00.

CONCENTRATED LYE—Quotations are given at $7 75@8 00 for best quality; second quality $6 50@7 75.

CRACKERS—We quote as follows: Lemon biscuit at 11½c; ginger snaps 12c; oyster crackers 7c; soda crackers 7c; sugar crackers 9½@10c; butter crackers 10½c; milk crackers 10½c.

PAPERS—Baling papers 14@3c ₱ lb, as to quality; manilla 7@12c; hardware papers 6@12c; bag wrapping 5½@6½c; felt papers 2½@4½c; straw news, 2@1½c; rag, news, 12½@13c; book papers 5½@15c ₱ lb.

RISING SUN STOVE POLISH—Sales made at $6 00 ₱ gross.

RAGS—Cotton at 2½@3c ₱ lb; and woolen at 3½c.

SALERATUS—Cases of 6 dozen, $5 00; hand saleratus, cases of 6 dozen, $5 00.

SALT—Car lots, ₱ bbl, $1 60; jobbing lots $1 80@1 85.

WOOD IN SHAPE.

STAVES AND COOPERAGE—The market is steady. Sawed staves matched with heading are quoted at $40 00@45 00 ₱ thousand; pork barrels are quoted at $1 00; country $1 50@1 55; kegs, 3 gallon, $1 00; 10 gallon, $1 25; half barrels, $1 50.

BENT WORK—Bent rims, 1¼ to 1¼ inch ₱ set, $1 25; 1½ inch, $1 40; 1¾ inch, $1 55; 2 inch, $1 85; 1¼ inch, $2 00; 2 inch, $2 75; 2½ inch, $3 00. Spokes—XX hickory 1 to 1¼ inch, ₱ set, $1 00 do, 1 to 2 inch, $3 75@4 00. Oak, XXX, 2¼ inch and under, ₱ set, $3 50; 2½ to 3 inch, $4 50; 3½ to 3¾ inch, $5 50. Shafts—Buggy shed, $7 50@10 00 ₱ dozen pair; finished, $10 50@15 00. Poles—unfinished, $9 00@15 00 ₱ doz; finished, $15 00@20 00.

Chicago Live Stock Market.

CHICAGO, August 12.—CATTLE—Receipts 2,800 head. Market dull, weak, unsettled, and prices easier; fair to choice at 3@3½c; Texans $2 50@4 25. Shippers 2,000 head.

HOGS—Receipts 8,000 head. Good grades firm and fairly active; others dull and weak; sales of good 1,000 to 1,100 ₱ steers.....5 30@5 75
Fine wool, 15 to 20 ₱s.....20@23 ₱ lb
Fine wool, 12 to 15 ₱s.....16@18
Fine wool, 9 to 12 ₱s.....12@14
Jersey ewes, ₱ head.....1 00@2 00
Scallawags, ₱ head.....95@1 55

Sales.

We give below a number of actual sales made by leading dealers during the week, which the reader can compare with the foregoing quotations:

Cattle.

HEDGES, HUFF & CO., SOLD

No.	Weight.	Price.	No.	Weight.	Price.
20	1,170	$5 35	15	1,400	$5 15
18	1,050	5 05	19	1,200	5 25
20	1,180	5 50	19	1,200	5 25
17	1,070	6 12	19	1,200	5 25
20	1,280	5 00	19	1,180	4 60
20	1,300	5 00	19	1,180	4 60
19	1,200	4 75	51	1,130	4 25
19	1,070	4 37	18	1,040	5 40
24	1,170	5 50	19	1,040	5 40
55	1,020	4 50	25	1,000	4 10
19	1,070	4 37	19	1,000	3 75
19	1,140	3 75			

HOLMES, LAFFERTY & CO., SOLD

11	1,130	$5 75	23	1,170	$2 37
21	1,110	5 00	34	1,170	5 50
25	1,180	4 00	35	1,060	5 00
35	1,050	4 25	18	1,200	5 00
15	1,130	4 25	20	1,200	5 00
35	1,200	4 25	20	1,200	4 50

SADLER, HAVENS & CO., SOLD

12	1,310	$5 70	16	1,200	$5 85
19	1,250	6 00	35	1,000	6 10
21	1,100	3 50	34	1,200	4 25
18	1,200	5 00	17	1,200	5 00
19	1,170	5 00	19	1,200	5 00
19	1,200

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 1874.

ONLY two men were killed at the late election in Kentucky. It was a very quiet election, for that State, and foots up poorly in casualties.

CHICAGO covers 22,000 acres of ground, and the 22,000 acres are covered by mortgage. In the mere matter of size, the mortgage has the best of it.

THE Republicans of the Third Iowa district have nominated C. T. GRANGER for Congress. There will be *one* Granger in the next Congress, sure.

IF, AS HALSTEAD says, there are only seven Protectionists in Cincinnati, and Free Trade is soon to be established, what is the use of spending six millions in building a Custom House in that city?

THERE is a slight improvement in the iron outlook as the important manufacturing center of Troy, resumption of work having last week taken place in a number of mills, giving employment to between eight and nine hundred workmen.

THE people of the United States are far too honorable and honest to cover themselves with the stain of repudiation, but the Democratic party doesn't seem to believe it, so low is its conception of the public conscience and virtue.

IN ONE breath the Democratic press charges that the present is an era of general and increasing immorality, and in another it chuckles over "the constant successes" of its party, apparently entirely oblivious of the intimate relation existing between cause and effect.

THE "Reform" Convention in Michigan numbered only a hundred, yet its few members could not agree, and an entire county delegation withdrew because the platform did not suit it. It was, in the main, a convention of played-out political bummers.

SATIRE is often hinted unawares. A leading English journal lately remarked: "It is always more or less uncertain whether a railway will produce a large return to the undertakers," and now we are told that the number of passengers killed on English railroads last year was 1,372—quite a harvest for the funeral furnishers.

THE latest mail advices from Germany and France are not so favorable as to the growing crops there as were previous accounts. Heavy rains had fallen in France and some portions of Austria, while in Germany almost tropical heat was prevailing. This means an increased demand, with correspondingly enhanced prices, for the products of our own overflowing granaries.

MEXICO has at length concluded that it will conduce to her advantage to aid the United States in the suppression of outlawry and irregularities on the Rio Grande, for which purpose a brigade of cavalry, said to be the flower of the Mexican army, has been ordered to that river to co-operate with General AUGUR of our army.

STEADY, but sure. We learn, from a recently published commercial table, that there was exported from Philadelphia to foreign ports, chiefly Liverpool and Antwerp, from October 28th, 1873, to July 22d, 1874, pork, 6,111 bbls; lard, 3,900,012 lbs; bacon hams and shoulders, 6,979,500 lbs., which exceeds the exports from Portland, Montreal and New Orleans, and is fast rising to compete with Baltimore.

THE imports at the port of New York for the week ending last Saturday amounted to $7,009,676, against $6,785,841 for the corresponding week last year. The total importations since the first of January foot up $253,398,426, against $252,539,901 for the relating period of 1873. The exports of gold and silver for the week were $3,521,442, making, with $34,067,428 previously reported, $37,588,870 since the first of January.

IN VIEW of current events in the Southern States, it behooves all who are interested in the success of free institutions in this country to remember that the leading characteristics of the Democratic party are precisely the same they were before and during the war, and more especially that the fundamental idea, upon which the Democratic party is based, is hostility to the equality of man, and the dignity of labor.

A SOMEWHAT important decision has just been rendered by the United States District Court of Wisconsin, to the effect that a national bank cannot be sued in the Federal courts outside of the district where it is located, and that service on the cashier when within another district does not give jurisdiction. The practice act of June 1st, 1872, it is held, does not change this rule nor enlarge the jurisdiction of the Federal courts.

CANADA is rapidly enlarging the Welland Canal around the falls of Niagara, and in two years more it is expected that vessels with fifty thousand bushels of grain will be able to pass through, while, so vast is the production and so rapid the progress of the West, that a delivery of 240,000,000 bushels of grain and flour at the lake cities is anticipated by 1876, if the average prices of the last three years are maintained.

THE Philadelphia papers of Thursday publish the details of the export trade of that port for July. The aggregate value of this foreign trade was $8,067,640, nearly one-half of which was petroleum, there being 11,268,276 gallons shipped, valued at nearly $1,500,000. There was also exported $700,000 worth of breadstuffs, $330,000 of provisions, and $228,000 of tobacco. About one-third of the export was sent abroad in American vessels. The aggregate tonnage cleared was 70,776, of which 22,910 tons were American.

IS IT not a little remarkable that Mark Lane, whose price rules the markets of the whole civilized world for cereals, should be better posted on the food prospects, from our Western prairies to the shores of the Baltic, than the most careful observer in any city of the world? Once in possession of the exact statistics of our immense cereal crop, it rules our market: that is to say, wheat in Chicago is worth the Mark Lane price, less what it will cost to carry it to Liverpool—no more, no less.

IN THE UDDERZOOK case, the Pardon Board has decided that, until the Lieutenant Governor is elected, it has not the power to commute the sentence of death to imprisonment for life. It has therefore issued an order to the petitioners for commutation or pardon to appear before it at its meeting, October 8th, and show cause why a warrant for the execution of UDDERZOOK should not issue. This is reversing the order marked out by the petitioners, but will afford them abundant opportunity of being heard.

PROSPECTS of a speedy resumption of business at the iron works of Troy are not encouraging. Messrs. BURDEN, according to the local papers, state that it entirely depends upon circumstances whether their works will start up this fall or winter or not. At present there is no demand for iron, nor is it probable there soon will be. CORNING'S mills have been started up to execute an order for a particular quality of iron, but unless additional orders come in they will shut down again. GRISWOLD'S have no intention of starting up at present, and altogether there is a gloomy outlook for the winter trade.

THERE was a period when Boston threatened to challenge the supremacy of New York as an exporting city, but that time has passed, a steady annual diminution in its export trade being observable. The decrease this year, as compared with the same period last year, amounts to $2,408,769. That city has of late years been playing with the Hoosac tunnel, Philadelphia and Baltimore, in the meantime, having entered upon a new era of commercial existence. Is the Hub of the New World wearing out?

WHILST, in our own country, the indications are that the promised revival of activity in the iron trade cannot be long delayed, there seems to be no material improvement in foreign markets. According to the latest mail advices from England the trade in that country is still in a languid condition, purchasers looking forward to a substantial reduction in the cost of fuel, and consequently in the price of iron as well. In Belgium there is a great deal of iron on sale, but few consumers are buying it at present, as they are looking forward to lower prices, and are holding back their orders. In France and Germany a similar condition of inactivity prevails.

A TABULAR statement of the July earnings of fourteen railroads of the country, printed in the New York *Bulletin*, shows the total to have been $4,213,400, against $4,634,988 for the corresponding month last year, a decrease of $421,588. In a number of instances, however, the reports are more favorable than those of June, and a few even show an excess over the corresponding month last year. The total earnings of the same roads for the past seven months foot up $31,957,916, against $31,250,121 for the corresponding period of last year, showing a gain of $707,795.

THERE were six railroad companies which defaulted in the payment of interest on the 1st of July, and two of these were California companies. Now, California has a metallic currency, was not affected, apparently, by the panic, and her financial condition is in no way touched by the currency question. How is it, then, that one-third of the defaulting railroads are found within her borders? If a gold and silver circulating medium is a panacea for all financial ills, California has the full benefit of it; yet her railroad companies come to grief just the same as companies in this part of the world, and that, too, in spite of the fact that California has produced the largest grain crop this year that she ever gathered, and that the monthly returns from her gold mines are fully up to the usual average.

LOOK TO THE ASSESSMENTS.

Under the old Constitution of this State, but ten days residence in an election district was necessary to qualify a voter, and the payment of a tax assessed within ten days would enable him to vote, if otherwise qualified; and the people having grown used to this short period of preparation for an election, there is danger that many of them will forget that the new Constitution imposes a longer period and exacts a greater amount of early attention to what has heretofore been put off until the last moment.

Under the new Constitution, every person offering to vote must show—

I.—That he has been a citizen of the United States at least one month. This will cut off all persons naturalized after the 3d day of October in the present year.

II. That he has resided in the State a year or, if formerly a resident and removed therefrom shall have returned, six months preceding the election. This is the same provision that prevailed in the old Constitution.

III. That he has resided in the election district where he offers to vote, at least two months immediately before the election. And

IV. That he has, within two years and at least a month before the election, paid a State or county tax assessed at least two months prior to the election.

Heretofore, taxes could be paid up to and on the day of election. Now they will have to be paid a month before. Assessments must be made at least two months previously, instead of ten days, and a two months' residence in the district must be shown.

It behooves every one who wants to vote at the ensuing election to see that his name is on the Assessor's list for his district before the 3d of September next. The Assessors are required, by law, to exhibit their lists at the polling places, and any one can see for himself whether he is assessed or not. It will also be essential to see that the taxes assessed are paid before the 3d of October, or the receipts will not avail; and persons who are applicants for naturalization will do well to get their papers out in season, as any person naturalized after October 3d of this year will not be entitled to vote until next year.

No citizen will be deprived of his right to vote, even if his name is left off the Assessor's list, if he can show that he has paid a State or County tax within two years. Thus a person who paid a State or county tax anytime between the 4th of November, 1872 and the 3d of October, 1874, can vote, upon making proof of that fact, and of his residence and citizenship; but the process of making such proof is a slow and vexatious one, and we earnestly advise all voters not to run the risk of being subjected to it. The sure plan is to see that you are assessed; and if your are, last year's tax receipt is just as good for election purposes as this year's.

The local committees are the proper ones to look after this work. We have discharged our duty in calling attention to it. In every election district arrangements should be made, during this month of August, for a close scrutiny of the assessment list and for a thorough inquiry as to whose names should or should not be upon it. This is work to be attended to *now*. The time is slipping away. The 3d of September will soon be here, and a little vigilance now will save a great deal of mortification hereafter. To wake up on the day of election, to the realization of the fact that many votes have been lost by inattention to this duty, will be very unpleasant. There will be enough difficulty, at best, in putting the new machinery in operation; and no good citizen will run the risk of being told, when he offers his vote, that he cannot get it in, because he neglected looking at the assessment list in season.

We beg the ward and local committees of the Republican party in this county to take this matter in hand at work promptly, and see that it is properly attended to. This is their legitimate work, and they cannot attend to it too soon.

DOMESTIC ARTS IN FEMALE EDUCATION.

An English tourist was lately heard to say that one of the most puzzling things he had met with in this country was the inability of American women to cook a beefsteak. They can make good bread, he remarked, they can prepare many dishes deemed more difficult in the culinary art, but if you furnish them with the best beefsteak in the world, they are certain to spoil it in the cooking. On such a subject the assertion of a single traveler might carry little weight, as he may be suspected to have been exceptionally unfortunate in his experience, or to labor under some idiosyncrasy of taste. We believe, however, that the remark just cited has been made by too many travelers among us, and besides agrees too well with the opinion of competent American judges to admit of question as to its correctness. In truth, beef is not the only article of diet which is habitually bungled by American cooks. It is only a decided minority of American housewives who know how to make either good bread or good coffee, a deficiency which may fairly be supposed to imply equal absence of skill in the preparation of many, if not most other articles of diet. Of course, when one thus writes, terms are used relatively, and dishes are condemned in comparison with a high standard of excellence; it is merely meant that as the result of imperfect preparation, no sufficient justice is done to the first rate materials used. Hence is still verified the somewhat coarse though pithy old English proverb, according to which, while Heaven sends food, the Devil provides for its cooking.

The subject, we know, is rather trite, but still possibly less familiar than it might be to a good many of the persons most interested practically in the subject. This, at least, seems to be the opinion of the gentlemen who have charge of the Educational Bureau at Washington. In the next report of the Superintendent, soon to be published, we understand that public attention will be particularly directed to the importance of making culinary instruction an essential element in female education. Some readers may have noticed the recent agitation of the same vital interest in England, where extensive cooking schools have been already established in central positions. In them young girls are trained in the art practically and theoretically, and are thus qualified either to superintend the preparation of food in their own kitchens when they shall be called to have kitchens, or to do the work themselves when necessary. In all the leading literary organs of public opinion the enterprise has been treated with the utmost respect, and among the educated classes the feeling is plainly general and clear that the movement is at once a sign and a result of the progress of civilization. What, indeed, is it but an attempt to carry out the notion of Lord BACON that the great end of science is the relief of man's estate? On reflection every one perceives the inconsistency of exulting in the means of swift intercommunication as one of the results of scientific advancement, while neglecting to extend and apply on the most extensive scale those scientific discoveries which bear upon the relations of food and health. Cooking is a difficult art, in the practice of which the natural sciences may be usefully applied, and it is simply disgraceful for people in an advanced stage of civilization in other respects, to rest content with the culinary methods and results which satisfied ruder generations. It is only, we suppose, by means of the schools that the great mass of the feminine moiety of the population can be properly instructed and trained in the sound principles and correct practice of this art, so essential to popular health and well being, as to have been justly called noble. Left to themselves, most women, like most men, are satisfied from generation to generation to do like their progenitors. Hence, while here and there a housewife, exercising her peculiar genius upon familiar processes or eagerly picking up hints from books or newspapers or enlightened visitors, makes real progress in the culinary art, sometimes even achieving brilliant results, the majority of housewives notoriously, especially in the rural districts, go on from their teens to hoary hairs boiling, frying, baking and compounding exactly as they were taught by their mothers. Perhaps hardly any traditions are more faithfully preserved than the culinary; they can be successfully assailed and broken up only by attacking them in youthful minds; a truth, we fancy, well known to the chief of the Education Bureau.

To guard against misapprehension we must say that the culinary art is only one of the domestic arts which, in the forthcoming report, are commended as proper subjects of instruction in the popular schools. Even old England has not disdained, in the moulding of her school system to take many hints from Germany, and it is to be hoped that this country is destined to learn much more from the same source. Whatever else Germans may have failed to do, they have not failed to think out the entire subject of education, as no other people in the world have done, and there is no question connected with the interest which they have not illustrated practically and by speculation. Their notions of female education are sometimes sneered at by Americans of a certain school, but unless we mistake, the German view of the subject is likely to meet with increasing favor on this side of the water. This, it should seem, is at present the impression of the gentlemen of the Bureau in Washington, and the paper to which we have more than once alluded, is a full account of the education of girls in Germany. The sum of it is that, while cultivating the minds of young women with admirable thoroughness, the Germans never lose sight of the fact that woman's sphere is pre-eminently that of housewife and mother. After all only a few women, they say, can live by science, or literature or the fine arts. Twice in a week, therefore girls in the schools receive practical instruction in sewing, mending, knitting and also in the art of making pretty things, knickknacks, &c. At the late Vienna exhibition hardly any part of the show commanded such general or unfeigned admiration as the various collections of elegant articles made by the hands of German girls. By such work the taste for the beautiful as well as manual dexterity is cultivated, and not only that: the art places in every woman's power a means of earning money. In the schools girls are further taught how to use the sewing machine; training of essential service to them whether they have to earn their own living or no. They are also assiduously instructed in what is called domestic economy, having, among other exercises, to resolve practical problems, such as, how to use, as mother of a family, a certain income, say of a thousand or twelve hundred dollars, so as to make both ends meet, or to save a little. Rent, food, clothing, fuel—all must be taken account of and allowed for, and in order to resolve the problem the young student is compelled to gather practical information certain to be of use in the future. Then, how valuable the mental attitude which the future housewife is thus forced to assume while still a girl! Last, though not least, girls are thoroughly instructed in the chemistry of domestic life, the chemical elements of the various articles of food, as the foundation of education in the art of cookery. Who can deny that these matters ought to enter into a solid course of feminine discipline, and preparation for usefulness in life.

FAILURE OF "REFORM."

The "reform" city government of Chicago is as great a failure as the "reform" administration in New York. Both were elected upon high-toned professions of independence of political parties in municipal affairs, and both have been more corrupt and more profligate than the partisan governments that preceded them. The city debt of New York is growing steadily, month by month, under its "reform" management, and Chicago has never been so badly or expensively governed as since she discarded politics in municipal affairs, and gave the "reformers" full swing at her treasury.

The reason for this is plain. It is not because "reformers," as a class, are corrupt or extravagant, or any worse than the average of human kind; but because they are not responsible, individually and as a body, to the organized sentiment which political parties represent. A man elected to municipal office as a "Reformer" is accountable to no one and to no party for his action. There is no organized public sentiment to hold him in check, and he does not even a bawbee when his actions hurt any particular cause, because he is not identified with any cause or organization that may be injured by what he does.

The Republican or Democrat elected to municipal office is, on the contrary, identified with his party, and is more or less restrained by his regard for and attachment to it. There is a public sentiment embodied in his party which he cannot afford to defy or neglect. If he is ever tempted to set it at naught, he is sure to reflect that to yield will undo him, and he never yields without having made up his mind to take the consequences. There is always the fear of the press and the organization of his party before his eyes; and although the restraint of these has not in every case been effective, it has always been salutary, and that salutary influence is what independent movements must always lack.

We do not undertake to deny that corruption and extravagance have existed in municipal affairs, in connection with the political parties dominant in them; but we do deny that "reform" or "independent" movements are any remedy against them. No movement for municipal reform was ever better handled, or carried on by purer men, than the movement in New York which is now ending so disastrously to that city; and Chicago is an example in the same direction. All the men who take part in such movements are members of one or the other of the two political parties of the country, and are just as much partisans as ever, while taking part in such outside movements. A man's moral character is not transformed by changing him from a Democrat or Republican into a Reformer; and the people are just as honest, when their own political ranks, as they ever can or will be when marshalled under a non-political banner.

THE MORMON QUESTION.

Pending the discussion in the House of Representatives of the bill to organize the Courts in the Territory of Utah, great doubts were expressed whether it would have the desired effect of intimidation, and it was predicted that the Mormons would make another test case, and thus again vex Congress with the question of polygamy. It was further argued that the true course to pursue would have been to fully investigate the case of Delegate CANNON, ascertain if he was a practical Mormon, and then deal with him under the law of 1862, which declared polygamy a felony. The Mormons are manifestly determined to have the agitation renewed, by the election of CANNON to the Forty-fourth Congress. It is unjust, however, to hold the Committee of Elections responsible, as some papers have done, for non-action in this case. The House alone is responsible, as a brief review of the proceedings in the case will show. On Tuesday, May 12, Representative HAZLETON, of Wisconsin, from the Committee on Elections, called up the contested election case of MAXWELL *versus* CANNON. Two resolutions were reported, namely: That GEORGE R. MAXWELL was not elected and was not entitled to a seat in the House of Representatives of the Forty-third Congress as delegate from the Territory of Utah, and that GEORGE Q. CANNON was elected and returned as delegate. It will be observed that while the committee declared CANNON elected they refused to declare him entitled to a seat. Mr. HAZLETON also offered a preamble and resolution reciting that CANNON had been guilty of polygamous practices, had violated the Constitution, etc., and closing with a resolution directing the Committee of Elections to make an investigation, report the result to the House, and recommend such action as might be meet and proper in the premises. Representative HARRISON of Tennessee offered an additional resolution, "That GEORGE Q. CANNON was duly elected and returned as Delegate from the Territory of Utah, and is entitled to his seat as Delegate in the Forty-third Congress." The first and second resolutions were adopted without a division. HARRISON'S resolution was adopted by a yea and nay vote of 109 to 76, and then HAZLETON'S resolution ordering the investigation was adopted by a vote of 137 yeas to 51 nays. Nothing more was heard of the subject until June 16th, when BURROWS, of Michigan, offered a resolution directing the committee to report the result of the investigation, but he failed to get even a second for the previous question, and that was the last that was heard of the subject during the session. It will thus be seen that the House not only declared CANNON elected, but also that he was entitled to the seat, and then refused to take further action.

THE New York *Journal of Commerce* calls attention to the fact that in that State, the average term, in prison, of life-sentenced prisoners, is only seven and a half years. Out of 224 prisoners sentenced there for life, 139 were pardoned after serving an average of six and one-half years in prison. This fact goes to show that commutation of the death sentence to imprisonment for life does not work well. The constant efforts of the friends of such convicts to get them pardoned are usually successful, and a sentence for life, in a State where hanging was long ago "played out," amounts practically to a mere service in the penitentiary for a period but little over seven years.

WE HAVE once or twice adverted to the movement rumored to be on foot for the construction of a Granger's double-track through line railroad from the Atlantic to the Pacific. At length the scheme is beginning to assume tangible form. Last Saturday a meeting composed of capitalists from different parts of the country was held in Chicago, at which, it is stated, there was great unanimity on the subject. The movers say that there is abundant capital and all the influence necessary to make the project a complete success. It is not proposed, however, to construct the line all the way, but by connections that the projectors know they can get, to accomplish their purpose. Whether the Boston scheme of a double-track steel railroad through the Hoosac Tunnel to the Lakes has anything to do with the matter, cannot yet be learned, but it is believed that it has.

THE latest monthly report of the Bureau of Statistics, just published, brings the figures of our foreign commerce up to the first of May. For the ten months ending April 30th, the imports for the whole country, merchandise and specie, amounted to $495,304,376, against $556,567,409 for the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year, a reduction of $61,263,033, but there has been a reduction in the consumption of imported goods of about $100,000,000 during these ten months, compared with the same period of the preceding fiscal year. The export movement for the ten months ending April 30, merchandise and specie, amounted to $357,653,558, against $367,560,766 for the relating period of the preceding fiscal year. We have exported $29,194,859 less specie than during the ten months of the previous year, yet we have shipped $69,285,471 more of produce and merchandise, making a net increase in the exports of specie and goods combined of $39,090,612. This is, upon the whole, an encouraging exhibit, inasmuch as it indicates the existence of an economic spirit among the people.

Most of those who remember the repeated attempts formerly made to introduce camels as beasts of burden on the Western plains, are probably under the impression that all such attempts have utterly failed. This, however, is a mistake. At a ranch on Carson river in Nevada there are at present twenty-six camels, all of which except two, have been raised there. Of the herd some years ago brought to this country at the expense of the government, all died except two. Considering the number of their progeny, the climate cannot be thought wholly unfavorable to the race. They are all owned and managed by Frenchmen who acquired in Algiers some knowledge of the right mode of treating the beast. They flourish on certain desert plants which no other animal will touch and are used in carrying salt over a distance of sixty miles between the marshes and the settlement. Some of them are able to bear a load of a thousand pounds. It is really quite gratifying to learn that the once much talked about experiment has not utterly failed, vanishing into thin air, and leaving no other memory outside of the records of the State Department than the Hon. GEORGE P. MARSH'S masterly essay on the queer creature. Indeed, Mr. MARSH'S paper was a report on its habits, nature, etc., prepared by order of the government, and was one of the documents which encouraged the attempt. Mr. MARSH was then Minister at Constantinople.

THE Secretary of the Treasury has very wisely, as we think, concluded that the money so far expended in experiments carried on by government authority in boiler bursting boilers, has been literally thrown away. Congress appropriated $100,000 for the purpose of these experiments, and $60,000 of that sum has been expended; but to what good? The experiments have proved nothing, except what was known before, and the only result likely to flow from them was to impose new, expensive and probably worthless patents for preventing explosions upon those who are compelled to use boilers in generating motive power. The Franklin Institute, of Philadelphia, first suggested these experiments, with the view of ascertaining, if possible, the cause of boiler explosions, and Congress adopted the suggestion in the hope that something would be learned that would help to make steam boilers more safe; but notwithstanding the good motives that prompted the suggestion and the adoption of it, the experiments have been hopeless failures, and Supervising Inspector General SMITH, under whose auspices the sum of $60,000 was blown away, has been asked to resign. The New York papers say that he has complied with the request, and *his* boiler has been bursted without any extra cost. The Secretary of the Treasury is clearly right in cutting off these useless and expensive experiments. The cause of steam boiler explosions remains yet to be discovered; but if Congress wants to find it out, the labor of the exploration should be given to scientific men, who can carry on their investigations without building costly boilers for the mere purpose of exploding them.

FATHER HANTHALER, the priest arrested for suspected complicity in the attempt on BISMARCK'S life was soon triumphantly acquitted on the evidence of character. Circumstances were terribly against him. He had been haunting the Prince's house all day; only a short time before the attempt he was seen engaged in conversation with KULLMANN, and at the moment the shot was fired by the assassin, the Prince's coachman was checking his horses to avoid running down Father HANTHALER who, crossing the street in front of them, was encumbered in his movements by his long sacerdotal garment. Moreover, after the attempt he fled precipitately, and was not to be found in Kissingen, but was arrested at a distant railway station. And yet notwithstanding these criminating circumstances, no one, whether Catholic or Liberal, who knew the man, believed for a moment in his guilt. During many years he has taken no part in politics, avoiding notoriety, and spending his leisure from year's end to year's end in reading the heathen classics. He is the author of a work on moral philosophy. Visiting Kissingen for his health, he was curious to see BISMARCK, and hence lingered about his house in the hope of seeing him go out. It was thus he fell in with KULLMANN, who at the place for a different object, asked the old priest for alms. He crossed the street in front of the horses merely because he found that where he was standing he could not get a good view of the great man. These explanations given by the old clergyman in his simple way, were irrisistible, and he was released without a film of suspicion. He was, however, terribly shocked by the adventure. Having before bought a number of photographs of Kissingen by which to remember its scenery, he gave them all away, saying that he needed no mementos of the place.

SOME of the papers are trying apparently to revive old superstitions concerning comets by connecting recent terrestrial calamities with our late celestial visitor. It is, however, a vain attempt; science, aided by the telescope, has killed even the popular imagination which used to see in comets such features as justified its worst fears; and not only the popular imagination was thus sharp-sighted; AMBROISE PARAEUS or PARE, the eminent French surgeon, and one of the most enlightened scientific men of his time, described the comet of 1532 as "horrible and frightful in appearance," and stated that "among the multitude it engendered such fright that some died of mere dread. Others became ill in consequence. It appeared to be of excessive length, and was of the color of blood. At its extremity was seen the figure of a bent arm, holding a great sword in the hand, as if about to strike. At both sides of the comet were visible many hatchets, knives and swords stained with blood, amidst which were seen many hideous human faces with beards and hair erect." The fearful prodigy thus described was HALLEY'S comet, which regularly pays us a visit once in seventy years, and really possesses none of the traits ascribed to it by the excited imagination of PARAEUS.

Superstition at present doesn't watch the sky for signs and wonders, but searches for them in the invisible world which lies about us. It seems also in reference to the strange phenomena therein to be seen and heard, men of science now, like men of science in other times, are not much more exempt from delusion than common people who make no scientific pretensions. In other words, in matters appealing to the imagination, no scientific culture or habit of mind suffices to render persons of a certain character inaccessible to the impressions which strike and capture the unscientific. The savans by confident assertion of the infallibility of their methods and by loud boasts of their devotion to the pursuit of truth had prepared the educated world to accept their intellectual guidance and to look up to them for safe verdicts regarding mesmerism, clairvoyance and all kindred subjects. People must soon begin to perceive that it was a rash surrender, when they learn that such savans as Mr. CROOKES, the chemist, Mr. WALLACE the naturalist, and others equally distinguished are completely entangled in the mysteries of what they denominate psychic force, materialization of spirits, etc. The truth is that, while in the investigation of the merely physical world, the habit of making experiments and of observing facts affords excellent safeguards against precipitate conclusions, as well as excellent preparation for discovery, it affords no protection against illusion or imposition in relation to spiritual phenomena. If an imaginative scientific man meddles with them at all, he is about as easily humbugged as another. Whether properly called spiritual or no, there are doubtless in so-called spiritualism phenomena which the investigator of matter is not prepared, by his studies, to reason about, and for which he has no tests.

THE Philadelphia *North American* publishes a long and carefully prepared abstract from a report made to the British government on the textile industries of this country, by one of the Secretaries of the English Legation. The exhibit reflects the greatest possible credit upon the country. Laying wholly aside the compiler's evident willingness to intimate that the tariff does not achieve all that it professes, his testimony to the great improvement in methods of cotton and woollen manufacture here, his summaries of increase and indication of causes why that increase may be continued, together with his testimony that the method and product are both, in numerous particulars, superior to the British, are of considerable importance. The dominating idea of the report may be inferred from the following quotation:

"In every important branch of industry the American manufacturers seem to be ever gaining on their competitors of the Old World, by availing themselves to the utmost of every advantage of improved process or labor-saving machinery which American or other invention may offer. There can be little doubt that the celerity with which all such advantages are thought out and then introduced into general use is owing to the constant pressure of high rates of wages and the comparatively certain protection of capital invested in inventions. The great industries of America would probably compare favorably with the best organized of the competing industries of Europe. The past history and present development of the textile industries is an earnest of prolific future. Whether or not a reduced cost of living shall ever be attained, one cannot doubt that under sound conditions of production, American industry will not only supply its home market in most articles, but will also become a formidable competitor in foreign markets in many articles."

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RIDING two horses in the political circus, each going a different way from the other, is not half as difficult as it would at first seem. It is as easy as lying, and the Democrats in Indiana are engaged in demonstrating how little difficulty attends the performance. Mr. HOLMAN, who represents the Fifth Congressional district of that State, is a hard money man, and voted *against* inflation, while the Democratic State Convention adopted a platform *in favor* of inflation. The Democratic party in the Fifth district have duly renominated Mr. HOLMAN, and they put him before the people on the following lucid and plain platform:

Resolved, That this convention fully indorse and reaffirm the platform adopted by the late Democratic Convention held at Indianapolis on the 15th ult.

Resolved, That we approve and indorse the course pursued by Hon. WILLIAM S. HOLMAN in the last Congress of the United States.

There it is, you see. They fully indorse the Democratic platform in favor of inflation, and they also indorse HOLMAN'S course against inflation! Houp la!

THE Democrats of Missouri have earned a new name for themselves and they are henceforth to be known as "Bushwhackers." The St. Louis *Dispatch* lately announced that its Democratic friends throughout the State were now, "for the first time in fourteen years, crawling out of the brush," where they have been in hiding ever since 1860, and the confession has fixed upon the skulking cowards the name of "Bushwhackers." The St. Louis *Democrat* says:

"Until now, we have never had Democratic proof for the statement that the Democratic party is composed of bushwhackers, who are crawling out of the brush "for the first time in fourteen years!" This party went into the brush in 1860. It devoted its energies to the honorable work of assassination during the war. Its best living representatives, if the *Dispatch* is right, are the outlaws who still live by assassination and robbery. Is that "the Democratic party?" If so, we venture to say that the people of this State will compel it to take to the brush again, and stay there."

THE marine disasters during July, says the Philadelphia *Ledger*, of vessels bel